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MANCH

# Manchester Memories (1871-1971)

This history of Manchester and its people is hereby dedicated to those who lived it.

Compiled and edited by Edith (Jones) Hillstrom aided and abetted by most of those mentioned herein.
Cover Design: Freda (Sigurdsson) Stanton
Maps: Miss Norma Essendrup
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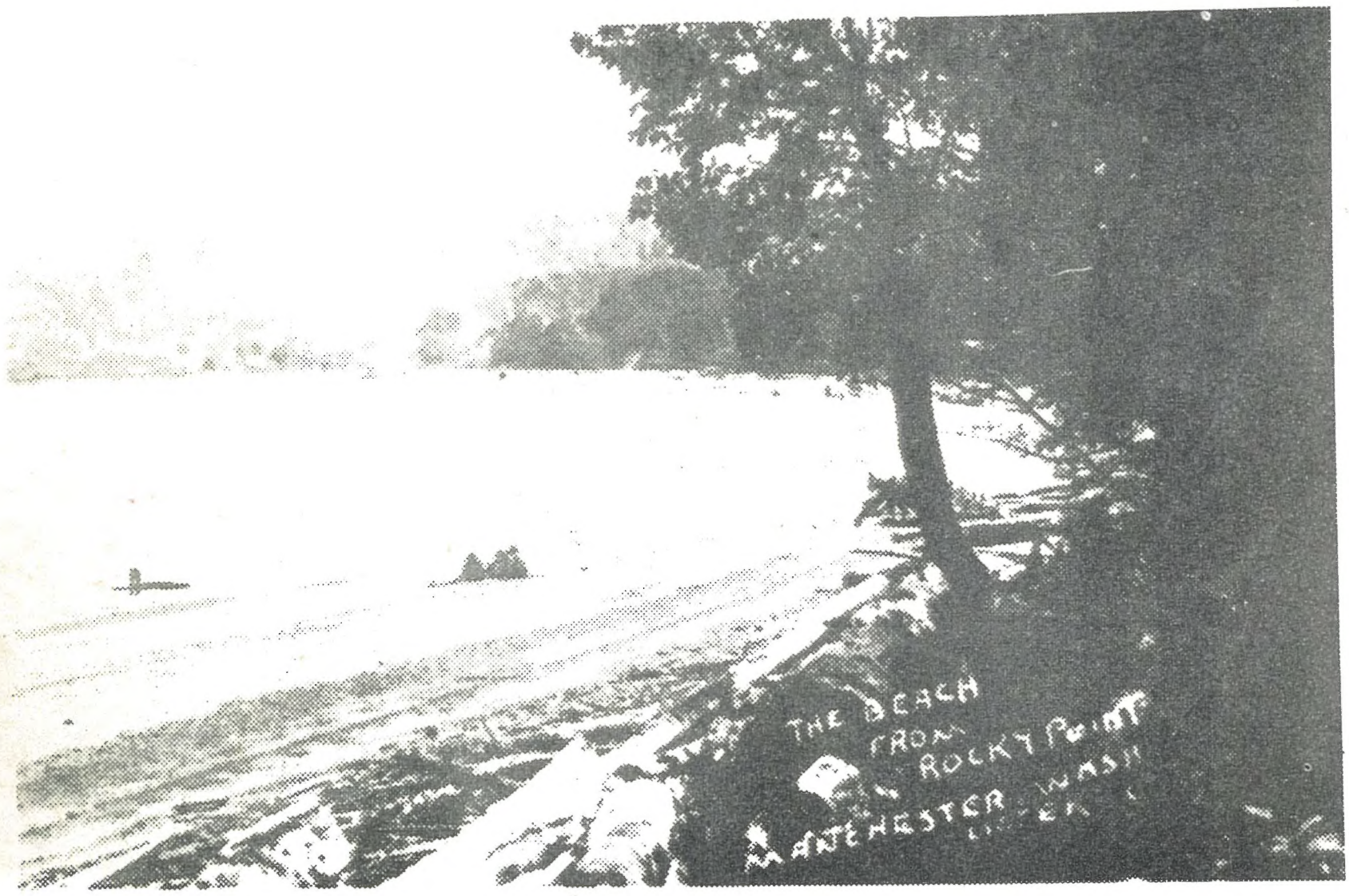
## CITIZENS OF MANCHESTER, PAST AND PRESENT:

We realize that many of you who should have been included on these pages are not mentioned. The absence of your names and your relationship to Manchester is due to lack of information and is purely coincidental.

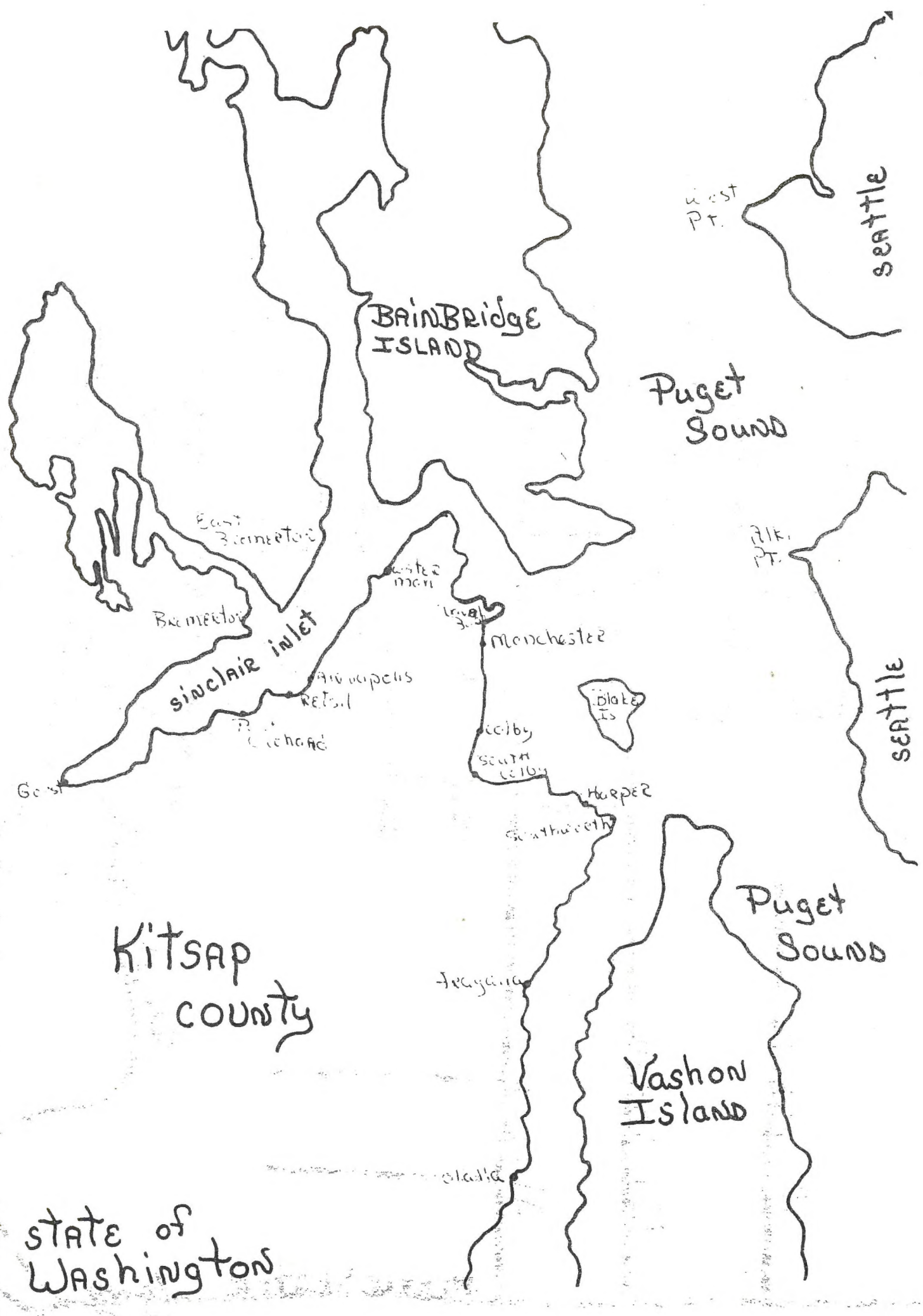
All persons mentioned herein, living or dead, are actually a part of Manchester and its history. If any of the facts given are in error or distorted in any way, that too, is purely coincidental.

Please forgive us our transgressions and omissions.




**Looking south from Rocky Point to Faerie Springs. 640 Acres of Government Reserve - U.S. Navy.**

This booklet belongs to the people of Manchester. Permission to reprint portions of this book is given to all who will use it to honor Manchester and its people.



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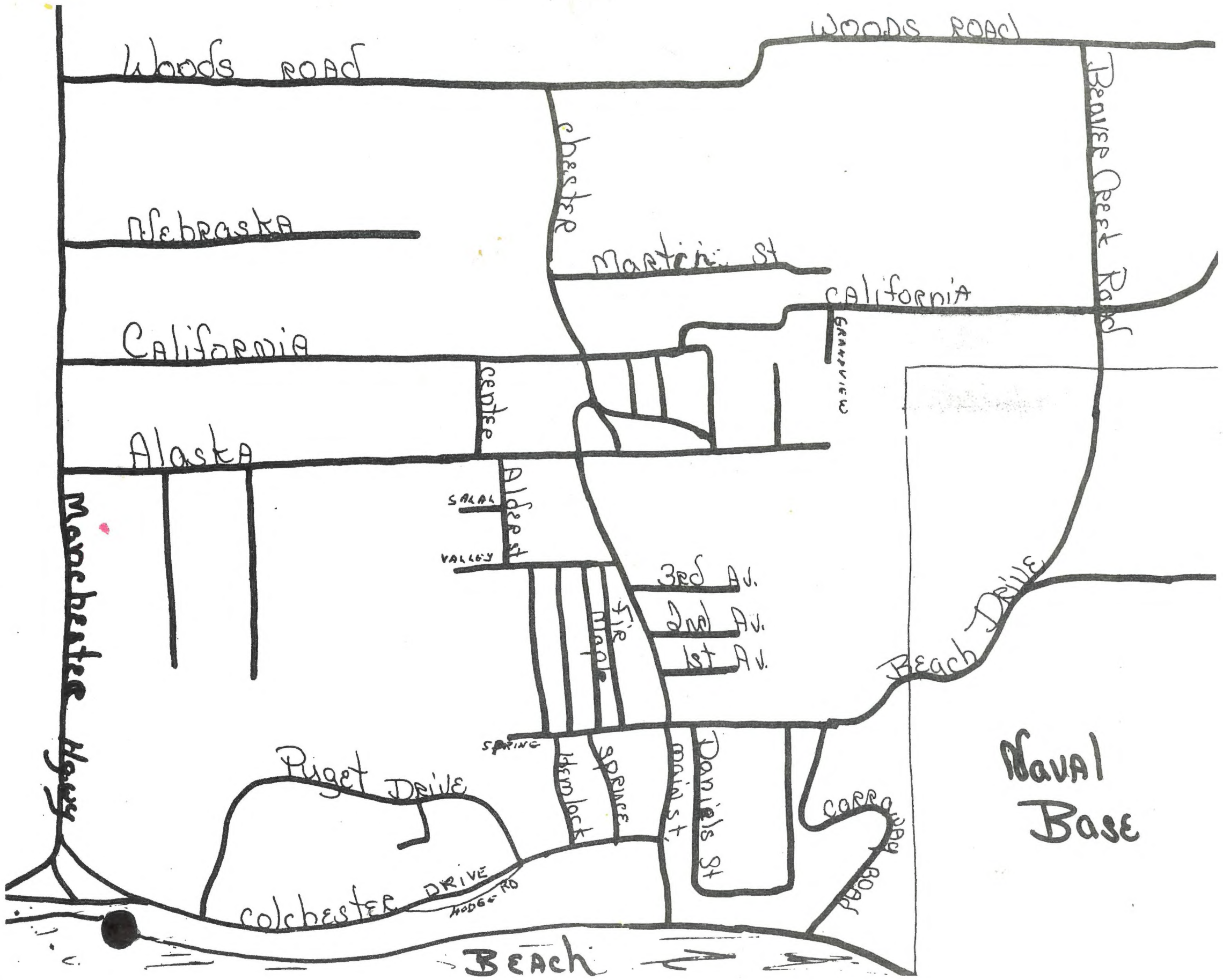
Woods ROAD
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2nd Av.
1st Av.
Fir
Maple
Beach DRIVE
SPRING
Hemlock
SPRUCE
Main St
Daniels St
Puget DRIVE
Colchester DRIVE
HODGE RD
Naval Base
Beach

On October 10, 1871 while Washington was still a territory, President Ulysses S. Grant signed letters of patent granting fifty-three acres of what is now downtown Manchester to Isaac C. Ellis.

It was located on the waterfront in a growth of virgin timber. The men worked as loggers, mill workers and tillers of the soil. The settlement was known as "Brooklyn".

In 1883, Charles Wood and Mr. Lockaby came by row boat from Seattle. They came ashore at Rocky Point where the Naval Fuel Depot is now located. Supplies were stored at Colby in a log enclosure and were carried by foot or horseback to the homes of the settlers.

Also in 1883, Mr. Ellis sold his property to Amos and Aunie Brown, who promptly sold it to James and Mary Hall. The Halls built a 7-room, 2-story frame house on the shores of "Brooklyn". Mr. Hall also built a small saw mill. This mill was later sold and became the Bruschke Manufacturing Company, capable of producing 30,000 board feet of lumber and 200,000 shingles per day.

Loading shingles on Hodges Dock Manchester

The company was not handled in a proper manner as was subsequently sued for its indebtedness and sold at a sheriff's sale. (It is interesting to note that Port Orchard was at that time known as Sidney.)

George Johnson, William Johnson, B.F. Johnson, and William Wood moved into Black Jack Valley in January 1884. Alexander Bell, Oliver O. Holman, Samuel Denniston, Robert Gibson and a few others settled in Bib Bottom. As families were moved in, a settlement grew in the trackless wilderness in the midst of which the Bethel Grace Church now stands. Here and there they found an occupied hut, but for the most part the country was wholly unoccupied. A Sabbath School was opened at the home of William Johnson. Mr. Johnson preached to all who gathered at his home.

In 1885, the meeting place was changed to the old log schoolhouse of Black Jack and a new preacher came into the region. Even his name is now forgotten, but services were held there for about a year.

A Sunday School was started at Colby in 1886, but a church was not established until 1887 when Reverend George Osborne came into the region and held services once a month on a circuit including Sidney, Colby, Olalla and Bethel. He lived on the shores of Puget Sound near Colby and held services until his health failed.

Benjamin Freeland, a dentist from Seattle, came occasionally and held services at different houses until the fall of 1890 when John Jensen came. His health also failed. He died January 15, 1893 at the home of George Johnson and was buried in the cemetery of the Bethel Church.

Reverend A.J. McNamee substituted for Reverend Jensen during his illness and continued the circuit, walking to Colby from Silverdale. He always used a walking cane and wore a long black frock coat. His coat had a back pocket where he carried a newspaper and sandwiches. Although his chief diet was clams, huckleberries and pilot bread (a big round hard tack).

In 1892, "Brooklyn" was renamed Manchester by those who envisioned a busy seaport town like the Manchester in England.

Also in 1892, the Federal Government acquired the land between Waterman and Manchester. It is directly across from Fort Ward on Bainbridge Island and it was intended to aid Fort Ward in protecting the entrance to the Navy Yard at Bremerton.

A postoffice was established in Manchester on January 4, 1893, with Joseph C. Nathan as postmaster. It was discontinued on May 16th of the same year. Mail for the area went to Colby.

The Bruschke Mill was destroyed by a disastrous fire in 1895. It was never rebuilt.

In the early days, it was necessary for Manchester residents to row out, and signal various boats to stop and pick them up when they wanted to go to other towns. Many rowed as far as Seattle for supplies.

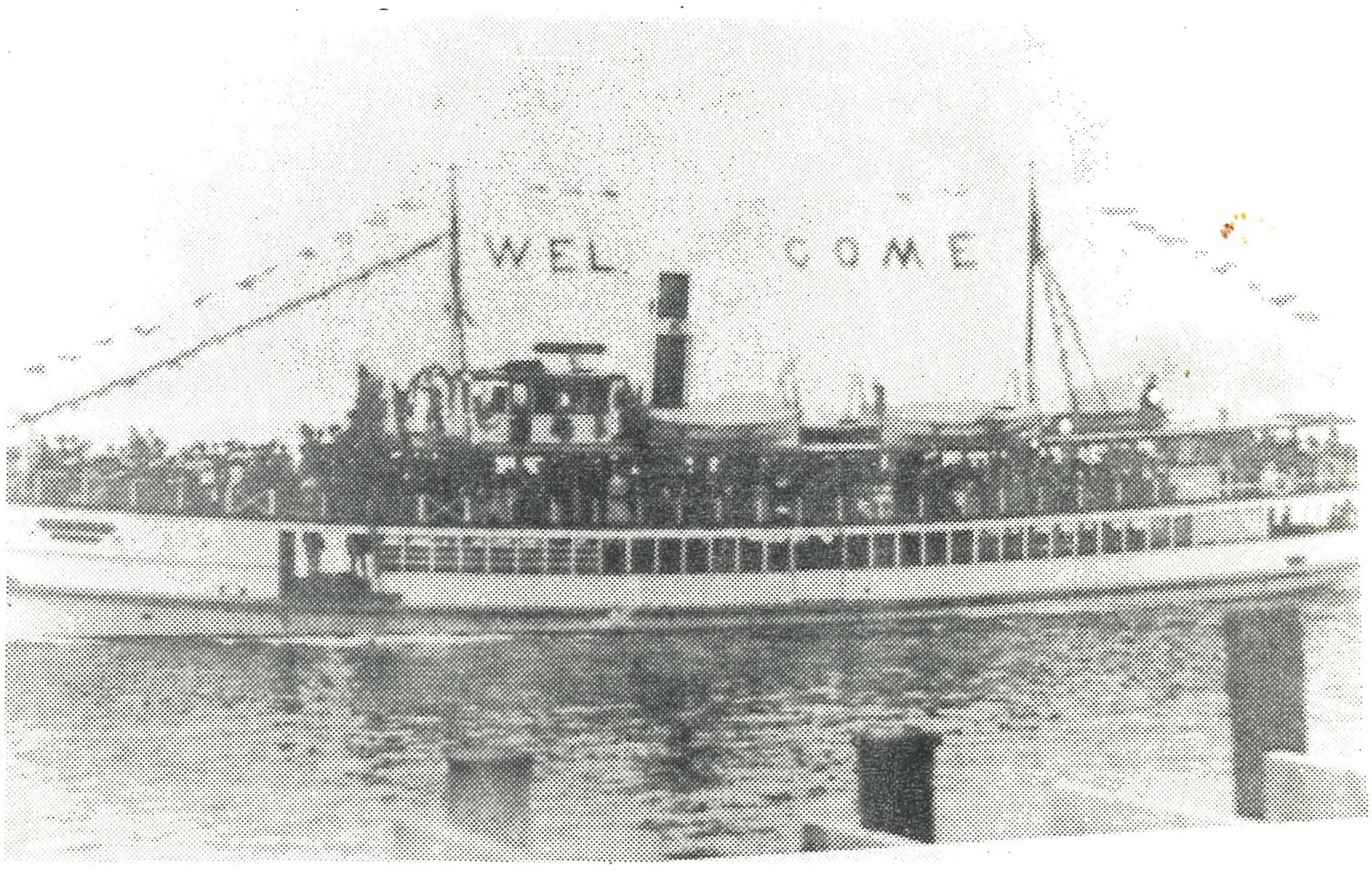
Later, a float was built, large enough to accomodate several people. Boats would stop by the float when signalled and pick up passengers.

The "Hattie Hansen" was running between Poulsbo and Seattle in 1900. It made one trip daily.

Captain Creswell operated a little boat named "Colby" between Seattle and Colby. One-way fare was seventy-five cents. He also operated the "Jennie June" and the "Grace".

Samuel A. Denniston purchased a large area of land on March 27, 1900 and later bought the tidelands adjoining it. This land was in the area which is now the very heart of the community of Manchester. He and his son Will built a general store near the beach in 1905 or 1906. The postoffice was re-established on March 9, 1906 and Samuel A. Denniston was appointed Postmaster.

**The Denniston Houses and General Store which housed the Manchester Post Office.**




**The Steamer Kitsap - 1906**

The steamer Kitsap was built by Kitsap County Transportation Company, W.L. Gazzam, in Portland, Oregon. It came to Seattle in 1906 and ran three round trips daily on the Manchester, Colby, Harper route.

In 1907 a 4th of July Celebration was held at Colby Picnic Grounds, a quarter mile south of Colby Postoffice. There was a full baseball diamond with grandstand seats built on the side hill. There were horse races, sack races, three-legged races, a greased pole contest, a greased pig catching, log rolling contests in the bay and, of course, a full nine-inning official baseball game. Lots of ice cream, fire-crackers and home-made cake for sale at numerous booths.

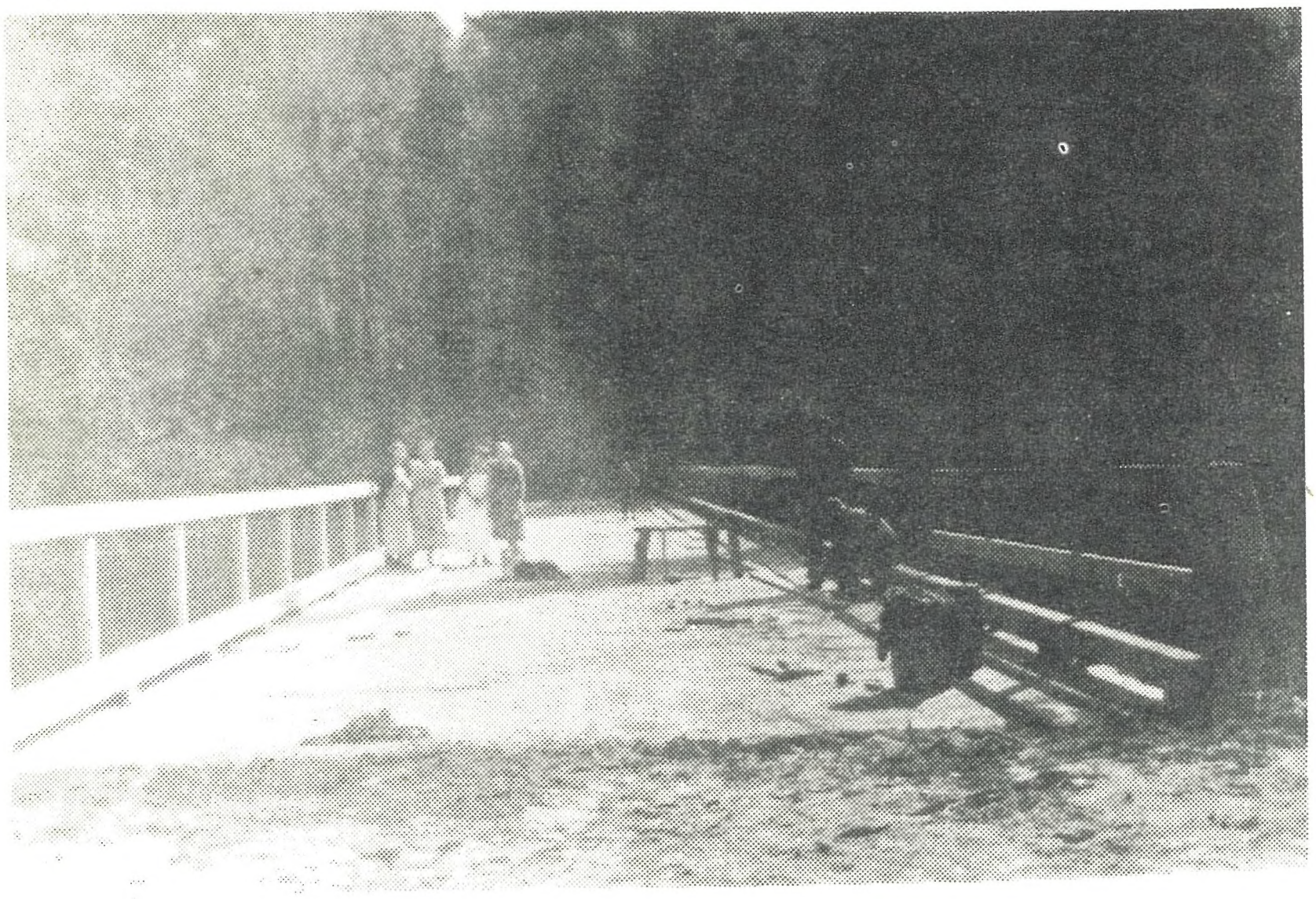
The Kitsap carried 350 passengers. She left Seattle loaded to capacity at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. and continued to cross and recross the bay all day, leaving Seattle and Colby on alternate hours. There were between 2,000 and 3,000 people on the Picnic Grounds. This was before the automobile. Colby was one of the most popular outdoor recreation points nearest Seattle.

Every Fourth-Of-July morning at approximately 12:01 a.m., in those good old days, Charley Graham, a well-digger by occupation, set off a full case of dynamite on the low tideflats to usher in the celebration. Windows rattled in every house between Manchester and Harper.

The United States Government fired a cannon at sunrise and at sunset as a signal to raise and lower the flag at Fort Ward on Bainbridge Island across from Manchester. Folks living in that area, if they knew the official time of sunrise or sunset, could set their watches or clocks by the cannon if they watched for the smoke of the discharge; but if they waited for the sound to reach them, the timepiece would be set slow because the sound of the gun traveled so much more slowly than the sight of smoke.

The Salmonberry Road was the first land route. It was started at Bethel and built toward Colby. The builders felt that starting at the greatest distance from town would assure that the workers would not quit when the road reached their own homes, but would continue to work until the road was completed.

The original road to Colby from Manchester went down Spring Street to the ravine which was crossed on a wooden bridge and then followed what is now Puget Drive and more or less along Yukon Harbor Road.



**Bridge across Ravine**

In 1907, Reverend McNamee, with the help of Miss Clara I. Denniston, and others, started the first Sunday School.

On February 24, 1908 the Manchester Investment Company was formed by Edward Martin, Letha M. Walters, Bert Rogers and George H. Green for the purpose of buying and selling real estate on commission or otherwise.

On March 23, 1908 Sam and Jennie Denniston entered into a contract with the Manchester Investment Company to sell lots in Denniston Plat.

Mr. Martin, Mr. Walters and Mr. Green also platted Manchester Heights (lots sold for $25. each). The streets were cut out so prospective customers could view them from the boats as they came in. The streets were mostly named after states and customers were encouraged to buy lots on the streets bearing the name of their home state.

**Land Buyers**

Boarding the steamer from a float was difficult. Most of the store supplies had to come by boat also. A dock was badly needed, so in 1908 the dock was built, with a storage shed to store the freight. Hay and grain were important items and deliveries were often made by row boat or horse and wagon.

By 1908, when the dock was built, the steamboat established a regular schedule, serving Manchester, Colby, South Colby, Harper, Southworth and Seattle. Occasionally it went up to Fragaria and Olalla and sometimes it came from Pleasant Beach on Bainbridge Island. The Steamboat Reliance was most frequently on the run.

In the days of the steamboats there was a boardwalk extending all along the beach to accomodate those going to and from the boats. It was maintained by individual property owners. Winter high tides and storms often caused havoc. Many of the homes and cottages, particularly on the north side were summer places, so spring time saw much activity preparing for summer occupancy.

Manchester was indeed a gathering spot for tourists, summer visitors. One of the very favorite places to dine was the Manchester Inn. It is still remembered for the delicious chicken dinners.

**Manchester Inn and The Boardwalk leading to it**

**The Lobby**

At the time that Mrs. N. Perkins was manager of the Manchester Inn, it was advertised as having first class hotel accommodations, beautifully situated on the beach for boating and bathing. Rates $10. a week, 50 cents a meal.

The land boom brought new families to the area. A school was badly needed. In 1908, the first school was established with Miss Carrie Holman as the teacher.

Manchester School - Classes of 1909-1910—George Neubling, Charles Goucher, Anna Johnson, Thomas Wood, ? behind Thomas Wood, Irene Sigurdsson (Thompson), the two Taylor girls, Holly Vogg, Rose Nelson, Signe Olund (Nilsen), Freda Sigurdsson (Stanton), Miss Carrie Holman (Peake), Alvin Denniston and Albert Johnson.

Manchester residents have always found their way to the "big city" for shopping and to attend various social events. Here are some of the families who visited the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition in Seattle in 1909.

Charles, Marie and Sigward Olund.

Mr. and Mrs. Olaf Johnson and Mr. and Mrs. John Nordal.

In September 1909, Reverend F. L. Tuttle, a supernumerary member of the California Conference was employed. Regular preaching services were kept on Sunday morning and evening at Colby and on Thursday evenings at Manchester in the schoolhouse on the hill.

In September 1910, the Reverend James D. Boice was appointed and held preaching services at Colby and Sunday morning; afternoons at Bethel and back at Colby in the evenings. Thursday evenings, services were held at Manchester.

Work at Waterman was started. Sunday School and Epworth League was organized. Preaching was on Wednesday evenings in Waterman.

**First Confirmation Class in Manchester / Waterman—July 2, 1911—Alice Hilda Segerquist, Ernest Johnson and Anna Carolyn Johnson. The Reverend Thorn (seated) came from Seattle twice a month to hold services and classes in the schoolhouse.**

Manchester continued to grow. It seemed necessary that a regular schoolhouse and a church be built.

By the fall of 1912 the new school was ready for occupancy and classes were started there.

Church services and Sunday School continued to be held at the school.

The new schoolhouse—1912

Fall of 1912—Top row: Alvin Denniston, Gunnar Wiggens, Miss Fanny E. Giles, Julia Johnson (Johnson). Second Row: Signe Olund (Nilsen), Irene Sigurdsson (Thompson), Edna Haffer, Modesta Daniels (Norgaar), Freda Sigurdsson (Stanton). Third Row, Barney Goucher, Frida Johnson (Vatne), Charlie Goucher, Holly Vogg, Arne Wiggen. Fourth Row: Emma Johnson (Hatfield), Violet Smith, Mary Alice White (Mill), Irene Bagley, Victoria Forsmark (Olund), Dorothy White (Forsmark), Hilton Bagley.

In 1914, a group of interested people gathered at the home of H.A. White to discuss and plan for a church organization. Mr. W.T.S. Lumbar, a farmer near Long Lake headed up the group. Some others were the families of Charles Wood, H.A. White, Charles Monk and Sam Denniston. Services were held in the schoolhouse until 1919 when a church was built at the corner of what is now Madrona Avenue and Chester Road. Mr. Lumbar was the first pastor of the Manchester Community Church. Other early pastors came from Seattle on Sundays. All-day services were held two or three times in the summer. Following morning services, a picnic dinner was enjoyed on the woodsy church property, followed by an afternoon service with a special speaker.

**Manchester in the early days before Colchester Drive and Main Street came into being. Left to right these houses now belong to the Edwards, Maiers, Hulets and Glenhams. In the foreground the Denniston property and a flock of geese.**

**Little Clam Bay and Meade's Warehouse**

For a short period of time the Manchester School closed due to a lack of pupils. The few who were left attended school at Waterman.

In 1922, the school was reopened with five students and a promise of two more before the year ended. Miss Blakely was the teacher. Although she was but eighteen years of age she inspired her pupils and brought them a wealth of knowledge. At the end of the school term the district held a Community Contest. All the schools took part. Ethel Johnson of Manchester School was awarded first prize for a solo. She still has her certificate dated May 11, 1923, signed by H.W. Elliott, President and Jennie M. Blakely, teacher. The five who started school that year were Harold Schubert, Earl Johnson, Muriel Scott, Mae Johnson and Ethel Johnson. Later in the year Marjorie and Allen Lathrop joined them. Their father was a colonel in the Army and they had been in the Philippines. The children found them most interesting.

Manchester School on outing at Rocky Point in 1922. They were collecting greens for a Christmas Play. Ethel Johnson, Muriel Scott, Mae Johnson, Earl Johnson, Harold Shubert.

On May 18, 1921, Charles Bowden was appointed as Postmaster.

Ernest "Al" Reuter then rented the store building in which the Postoffice was housed and was appointed postmaster July 27, 1923.

The Manchester Improvement Club was established July 12, 1924. Rosetta Lathrop was one of the first officers. Concentrated cooperation by the members resulted in many improvements, including a new dock, new ferries, establishment of a voting precinct, a clubhouse and a new school.

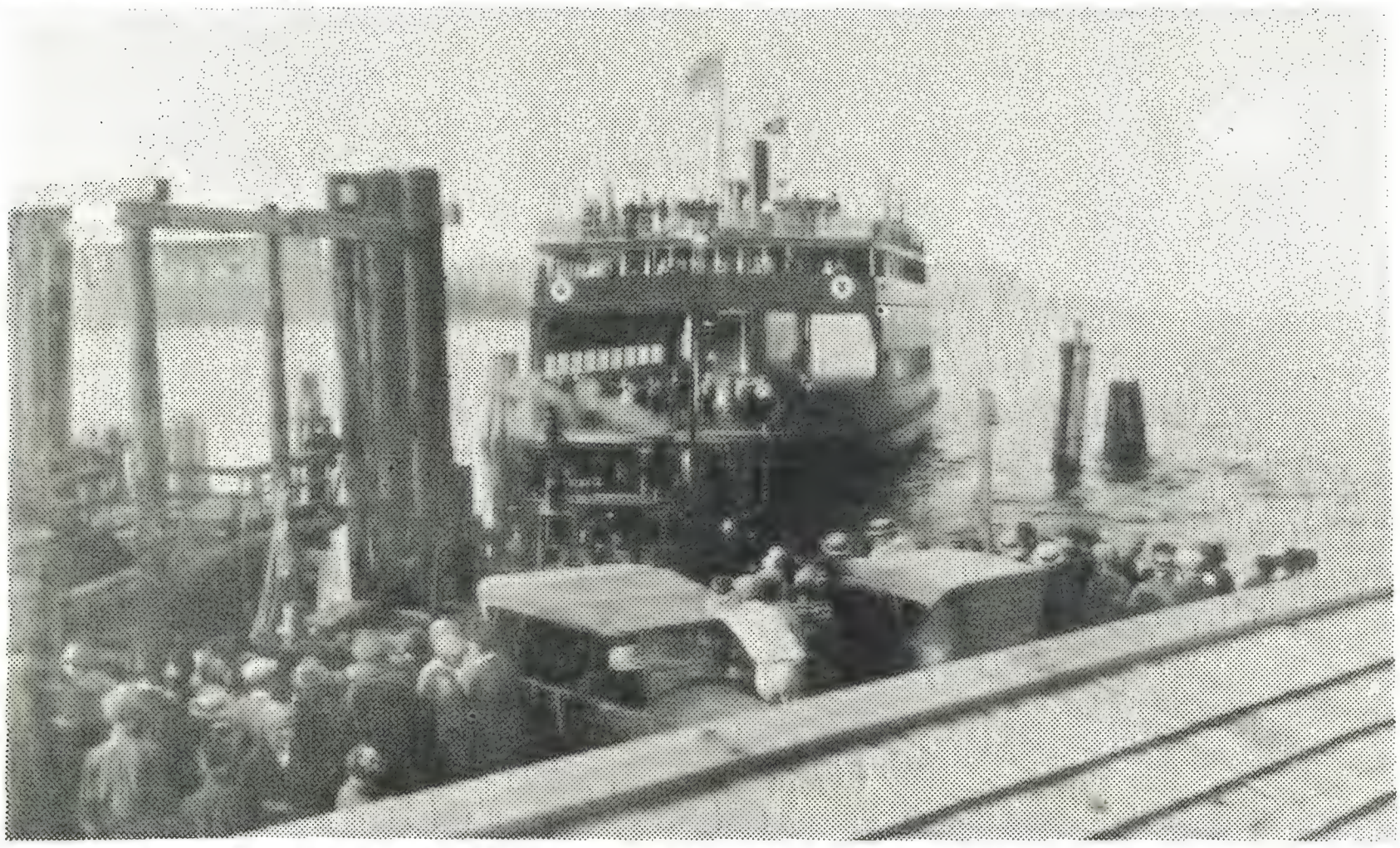
Main Street—1924

An April 1, 1925 a new dock was christened at Alki Point by Esther Olund (McEligott) and the Manchester dock was christened by the Seattle girl. The first ferry was the "Bee-line".

The new dock—Manchester—1925

The coming of the ferries brought about changes. The first ferries ran from Manchester to Alki Point with fares only 10 cents and 20 cents. Roads were built to accommodate the cars and the beach road to Waterman and a road to Colby were opened.

The beach boardwalks went out of use as people built roads into beach homes, and more and more of the homes became permanent residences, because of tne improved transportation.



July 4, 1925 was the first trip of the large 65-car ferry, "Crosline"

Then the "Airline" was added. Thousands of cars took this shortcut to the Olympic Peninsula.

The first clubhouse burned down in 1928. A new one was built in 1932 on land donated by Mrs. Lula Rogers; using money obtained by mortgage from Mr. Pulliam. Nothing was ever paid on this mortgage, mainly because of poor management on the part of the town officials.

Ernest "Al" Reuter purchased the store from the Dennistons in 1925, but his health failed and he could not keep up the pace of working in the store and postoffice, so he was replaced by young Al Reuter, who was appointed post-master October 19, 1929.

CLASS OF 1929: Top row: Marshall Nelson, Kermit Johnson, Barney Essendrup, Eva Griffith (Dolen), Donald Denniston, Glenna Riley (Leftwich). Middle row: Alfred Greenberger, Margie Moore, Roy Daniels, Joe Daniels, Robert Denniston. Front row: Buddy Moore, Billy Johnson, Blanche Griffith (McEdwards), Donna Riley, Phyllis Tyler, Margaret Griffith (O'Donnell).

In the 1930's, Manchester was a swinging town. Four taverns and a large inn kept the community busy and full of an undesirable element. The townspeople persuaded the authorities to clamp down and Manchester went dry. The taverns were closed and shortly thereafter, in 1935, the inn was destroyed by fire.

Manchester Inn

Citizens of Manchester were treated with an inspiring sight on Friday, July 7th, 1933 when the frigate "Constitution" was sighted coming from Bremerton past Bainbridge Island on its way to Seattle.

"Old Ironsides"

In 1940, when there was a sudden influx of people into the area because of World War II, the school board rented the church basement for a schoolroom until an additional room could be built on the school. The church then adapted the basement for a temporary parsonage.

Top row: Bob Ayres, Norman Essendrup, Joe Daniels, Jack Norgaar. 2nd row: Bonnie Gordon, Maxine Mix, Veda Mix, Eunice Nelson, Lillian Gordon, . 3rd row: Bill Griffith, Chester Griffith, , , , , Dean Daniels, Sam Denniston, Mrs. Eselby, Front row: Ruth West, Rosemary Nelson, Lily Griffith, Dorothy Dow, Bobby Nitteberg, Donna Dow, Virginia Griffith, Pat West, Virginia Nitteberg.

CLASS OF 1939: Grades one through six. Top row: Dorothy Dow, Rosemary Nelson, Molly O'Neil, Miss Melver, Donna Dow, Virginia Griffith. 4th row: Chester Griffith, John Dow, Daniel Bunting, Virgil Haynes, Earl Haynes. 3rd row: Barbara Bartow, Helen Collins, Lily Griffith, 2nd row: Donna Gordon, Diane Jones, Florence Ballard, Dorothy Reuter, Kellogg, Katherine Kellogg, Anne Norgaar, Martha Bunting. Kneeling: Bobby Nitteberg,

July 4, 1940, old club house on Main Street burned

In 1940, Al Reuter sold the store and moved to Seattle. M. Ellen Randall who had recently been widowed became acting postmaster. The postoffice was moved from the Grocery Store to Mrs. Randall's Fountain and Drug Store. She was appointed postmaster on August 14, 1941.

In the 1940's, former students honored their beloved teacher, Miss Fanny Giles. Back row: Freda Stanton, Signe Nilsen, Vickey Olund, Ada Johnson and Alice Daniels. 2nd row: Dorothy Forsmark, Miss Fanny Giles and Modesta Norgaar. Front Row: Young Anne Norgaar.

CLASS OF 1941: Top row: Mrs. Margaret Melver, Gene , Ann Norgaar, Katherine Kelloge, Russell Englund, Dwane , Bill Sundstrom, Rosita Young, Billy Reeve, Dorothy Reuter. 2nd Row: Marilee Blanchard, Carter , Mahanna, Helen Collins, Daniel Bunting, , Barbara Bartow, , Lily Griffith. 3rd row: Eleda Carlson, Cleanor , Bobby Nitteberg, Bobby Lursen, Diana Jones, Martha Bunting, Robert Speed, Shirley Bartow. 4th row: Esther Griffith, Jessie May Thomas, Diane , Iris Lowery, Edith Olund, Carmen Mahanna, Karolina Kelloge, Florence Ballard, Barbara Headding. Front row: Dean Noble, Jimmy Mahanna, Leslie Mahanna, Billy Headding, , , Benny , David Endsley.

During World War II, when Yukon Harbor was used as an anchoring place for Government Ships, the ferries were often crowded with men going to Seattle to spend their liberty. The Navy developed the oil storage base as Manchester.

Although the talking about fire districts and water districts had started in 1941, actual drilling for water didn't start until 1946. Sam Denniston, Clarence Jones, Dr. Netteberg, Roy Duncan, Russ Brown, Harry Axdel and Leonard Cotton were among those responsible for the ground work.

Two wells were drilled by the Osborn Drilling Company of Manchester. The wells are a block apart at the south end of Spring Street and were both completed in September 1946. Water commissioners elected were Sam Denniston, Ralph Fraser and G.F. Shrader. Contract for storage tanks and installation of mains and service connections were awarded to the Superior Construction Company of Seattle. Work was started immediately.

A memorial fountain was built and dedicated to Henry Ballard, James Breitenstein and Jerry Carroll, local men who were killed in World War II.

A new "Shopping Mart" was opened. It contained five stores with a combined floor area of over 4,000 square feet. It was constructed chiefly of concrete and glass. The building is virtually fireproof and was designed by the owners, Mr. and Mrs. A.V. Sanford, with the needs of the small business man upermost in mind. An unusual and modernistic front was achieved by recessing the center store eight feet, the next two four feet, with the outer ones flush with the corner of the building. Approximately one-third more display window space was thus obtained than would have been otherwise possible. The floors and sidewalk are of tilered concrete. The new merchants were Frederic's, a general garden store and flower shop operated by Mrs. Cencirulo; an exchange and gift shop also operated by Mrs. Cencirulo; Bruce's Apparel, a shop devoted to women's and misses' wearing apparel operated by M. Bruce Johnson; Ken Manufacturing Company, a woodworking shop; and Fuller's Variety Store, operated by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Fuller.

The Manchester Improvemenrt Club Ladies made $50. on a dinner and put the money in a Seattle Bank to be sure it was used for the purpose intended—another clubhouse. Al Reuter made available a lot for this purpose at a price of $50. However, realtor Clarence Jones handled the sale and gave the deed to the community and refused to accept the $50. thus leaving them that amount with which to start their club. They purchased an old house on the Roy Daniels property and had it moved to its present location. August of 1946 found the ladies busily working to make the new club house usable.

**Mae Harvey, Marie Surber, Belle Cole, Helen Shrader, Hannah Jurgenson, Ruth Frey, Tina Langtry, Theo Headding, Estelle Reeve, Susan Gunther, Velma Hussey, Pat Bartow, Nell Fuller and Alice Sundstrom.**

Dr. Harry G. Swanson of Bremerton purchased the Manchester General Store in 1946. The building was two years old, of modern frame construction and provided space for a hardware store and restaurant in addition to the space occupied by the grocery and meat market. It was built by Sam Denniston, local contractor for Jerry Turner.

The desire for a library was expressed early in 1946. In November the Town Board met with the County Board to make plans. Honored as founder of the library is Mrs. Arthur Sanford who put the plans into action. Willingly she offered rent-free space in her new store building. Occupancy to begin July 1, 1947 and to continue for one year. Seemingly in August these plans were to be changed as Mrs. Sanford's property was sold. However, the buyer, Mr. Taylor, agreed to abide by the former agreement and gave the library space in the middle store of The Shopping Mart. McMillan Construction Company furnished lumber for shelves and partitions; Sam Denniston donated his labor to build and install them. W.J. Taylor & Co. furnished the necessary hardware and The Frederic's Shop donated a much-needed table. Dorothy Wilson Cencirulo, who operated Fredric's acted as librarian.

The shelves were stocked with books from the Regional Library in Bremerton and on September 20, 1947, dedication and opening day ceremonies were held. Refreshments were served by the newly-formed Library Committee Ladies. Community-minded ladies were trained to serve as unsalaried librarians for one year. On October 21, 1947 the Library was officially opened for business.

In July 1948, rent-free space was not offered for the library and a search was made for a new location. Sam Denniston, local contractor, came to the rescue with the offer of an old chicken house. The Library Committee cleaned, painted, and beautified the building for occupancy. Soon all the shelves, books, chairs and tables were moved to the new location.

**Graduation from Junior High: May 25, 1948. Edith Olund, Dean Noble, Diane Jones and Bill Headding.**

Station 2 of the Fire District was formally organized on August 25, 1948, with Al Totten as District Chief and Russ Brown as Yukon Harbor Chief. Before the organizing of the district, Russ and his uncle operated a two-man fire department. They had a portable pump and some hose in the back of the car. They were always around to help neighbors who had fires.

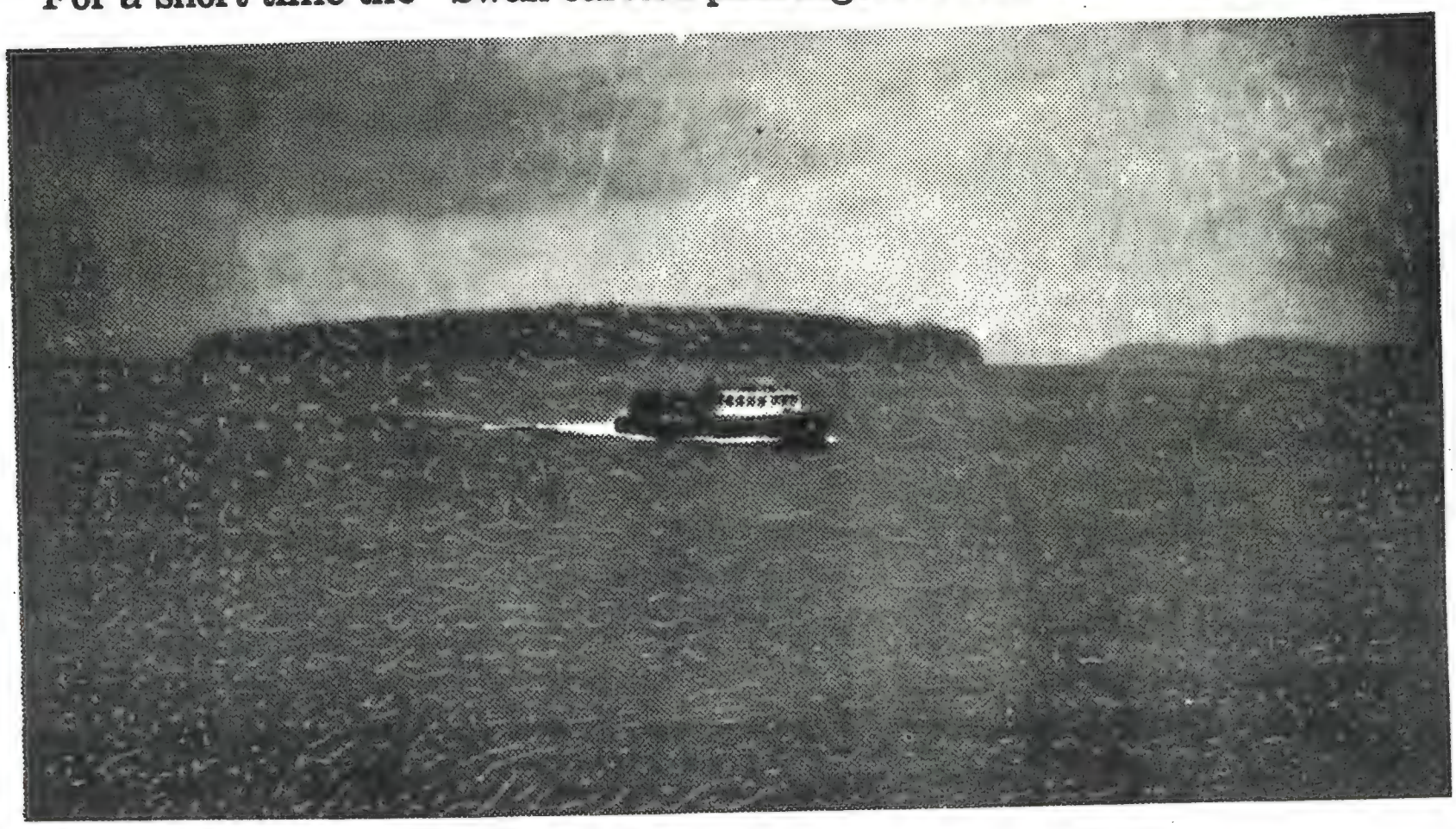
Shortly after Yukon Harbor was organized, they purchased a 1946 Ford-Howard-Cooper pumper, now called No. 732. This was housed in Howard Mulkey's garage in Manchester. Russ Brown negotiated a ten-year lease with Vic Pinard for some property by Peggy Young's Pet Shop. An old housing project building was moved onto the property and used for a fire station.

**Carol Dexter throwing biscuit at Manchester Picnic—1948—Carol Dexter, Lloyd Dexter, Tina Langtry, , Susie Gunther, Hazel Kelly, Stell Reeve, Barbara Headding, Theo Headding, Ruth Frey, Velma Hussey and Jean Keifer.**

**Commuters coming off ferry "Quillayute" on last trip, June 24, 1949**

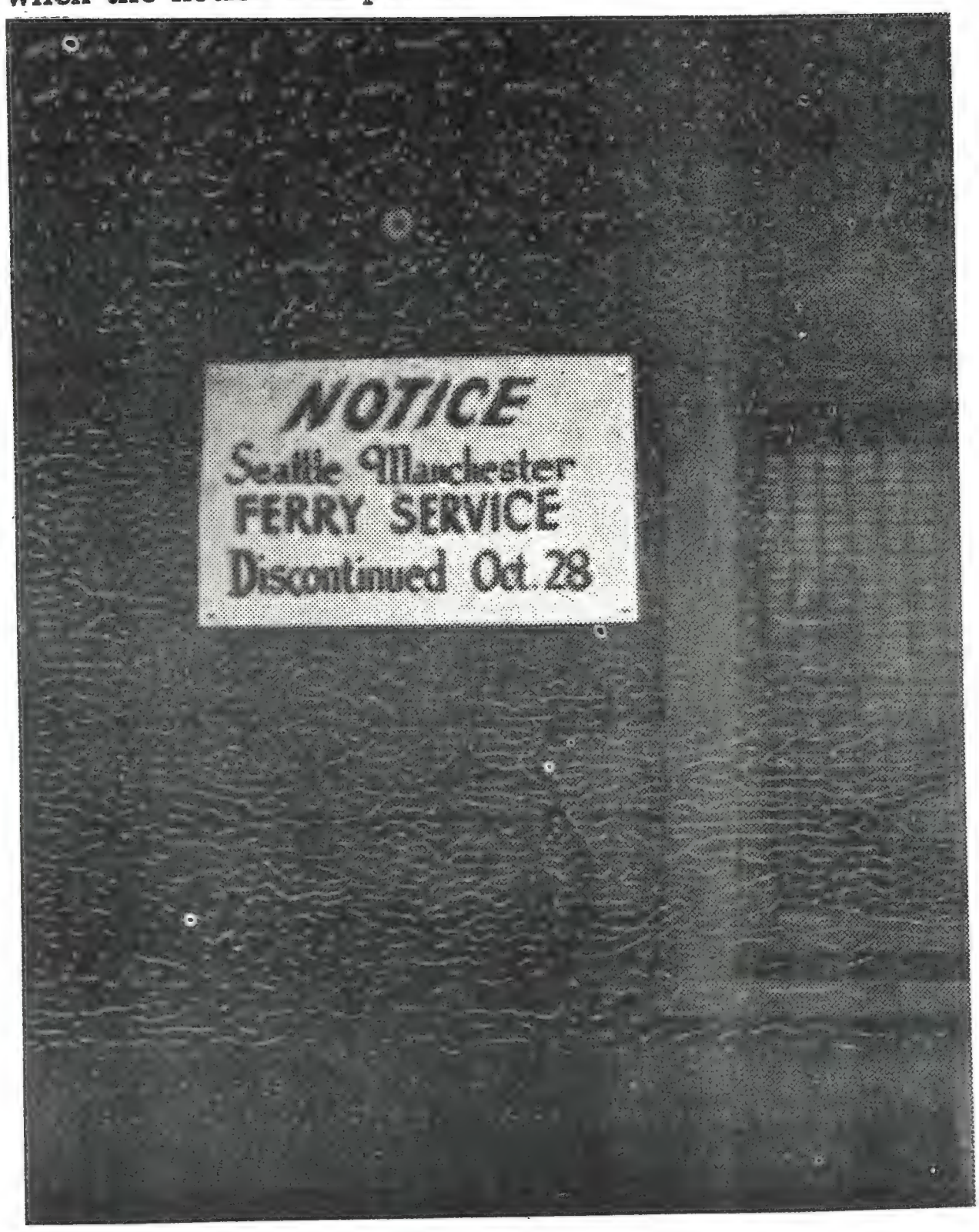
Not only the people of Manchester, but those of all the surrounding communities felt the loss of the ferry service deeply. Seattle suddenly became a distant city again and Manchester became a "dead end street".

For a short time the "Swan carried passengers from Manchester to Seattle.



"Swan", July 26, 1949

Then it, too, became a thing of the past. Manchesterites were indeed desolated when the notice was posted.




1950

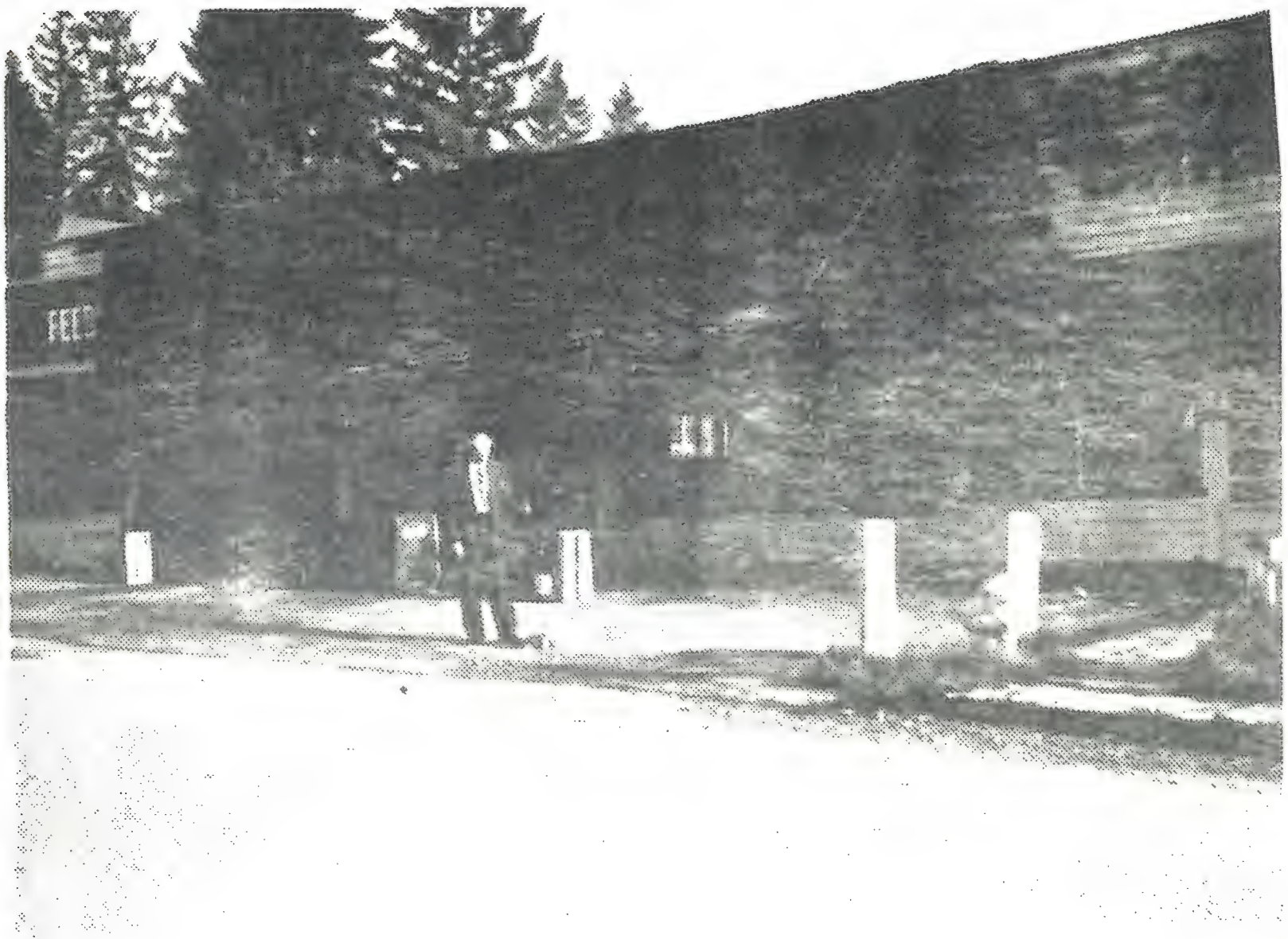
Ford bus "Manchester-Port Orchard Bus Line"—April, 1951

Beck bus "Manchester-Port Orchard Bus Line" in front of driver George Dodeward's house—1951.

Transportation has always played a large part in the formation and the growth of every community. Manchester had continued to grow during the years when public transportation was available. But when the ferries stopped, so did Manchester. However, the people did not allow the inconvenience to disable them forever. They kept trying, some with great success, some failed.

The Fire Department continued to grow. A resuscitator was purchased in 1952 for about $500. This was a great asset for the community.

On August 15, 1952, the Manchester Supermarket and Post Office was destroyed by fire.



Frits Scavenius Surveys the damage

Another big fire! Aiken's Lockers burned on April 28, 1953. On May 2, 1953, Thiesen's Lumber Yard burned. This firm was located at the present Stock Lumber Company location.

Early in 1953, the Library Board was notified the renovated chicken house was to be torn down to make room for private housing. The Manchester Improvement Club offered their club house as temporary quarters and once again the complete contents of the library were moved. Club meetings were held at the homes of the various members while the library occupied the club house.

The residents of Manchester held a meeting in August and it was decided permanent housing was necessary for the future development of the library. Donn Nelson was appointed chairman of the Board of Ways and Means to solicit funds for a building.

Plans and working drawings for the building were donated by Howard Kinney, former Manchester resident, now with a Seattle Architectural Firm.

By November 1953, a fund of $678.65 had been donated by the community at large. In addition, materials and services were donated. The Port Commissioners met and agreed to let the building be placed on the southeast corner of the Manchester Parking Lot; with the understanding that it be built on skids and in such a manner as to make removal possible should it become necessary at some future time.

Estimated cost without interior or exterior finishing but ready for occupancy was placed at approximately $800. With that goal in mind and the fund below $700. it was a grateful Ways and Means Committee on April 8, 1954 when Mrs. Kate Middleton, a summer resident of Midlands, mailed a check in the amount of $200. to be used for the building.

Construction began at once and advanced to a half-finished point when donated labor became scarce and finally work was halted.

The Regional Library could not grant use of the Club House for other activities as long as public books were housed in the same room so removal of the Library from the Manchester Improvement Club as soon as possible was desired. The club voted to loan their building expansion fund of $400. to the Library Committee for a period of one year, interest free. The Library Committee accepted the loan and immediate plans were made to obtain additional materials and use paid labor to complete the building.

Upon completion, an open house day for visitors was held in October 1954. Representatives from the Bremerton Regional Library came and pictures were taken of the building. One of the many visitors that day was Mrs. Kate Middleton.

The total expenditure to that date was $1809.19 of which $505.85 remained unpaid. Plans were discussed to repay the Manchester Improvement Club loan of $400. as well as pay the outstanding bills. A rummage sale was held and it netted $200. Door to door solicitations were once again made and an additional $300. was given by the people of the community.

The books and Librarian Services were supplied by the Bremerton Regional Library with the understanding that the insurance, electric heat and lights, also maintenance would be paid by the community.

Another rummage sale was held in the winter and netted an additional $100. By December 31, 1955 the total indebtedness was cleared and money left in the treasury for operating expenses.

The Manchester Community has the only free library unit of the Bremerton Regional Library south of Port Orchard. This could never have been accomplished without the whole-hearted support of everyone interested.

Sometime between 1958 and 1960, the fire district bought an old '41 Ford fuel truck and converted it into a tanker, now called No. 722.

In February 1960, radio receivers were purchased which modernized the Yukon Harbor Station into a radio-controlled unit.

Russell Brown was Fire Chief from 1948 until 1959 and again in 1963.

M. Ellen Randall retired at age 70 on December 31, 1962 and Jean M. Olson became acting Postmaster until her appointment on April 25, 1963.

Post Office

Negotiations for land on which to build a new fire station were started by Russell Brown in 1963. The Board of Commissioners completed the negotiations, bought the land from Bob Titus, and a new station was built in 1965.

On September 13, 1964 a Fiftieth Anniversary was celebrated at the Manchester Community Church. It was another "All-Day" meeting with many former members and friends present.

Ground-breaking services were held on May 23, 1965 for a new educational building. This two-story building, with fourteen large rooms has been in use since then and plans are being made for additional buildings to meet the growing needs of the community.

As the church grew, more activities developed. The women formed a missionary group and several hundred crib quilts have been made and sent to various missionaries or orphanages and other organizations. The group meets for a monthly luncheon.

The men got well-aquainted helping to build the Educational Building and now have a Saturday morning breakfast about once a month.

The Annual Mother-Daughter Banquet has become so well attended it is hard to find a place large enough to hold it. The Father-Son Banquet is also a big event.

The Vacation Bible School held each summer gives time for concentrated Bible Study and good times, too. On two occasions parades were held through Manchester to advertise the Bible School.

Rummage Sales were held to raise money to send the Bible Quiz Team to St. Louis to the I.F.C.A. Conference. They almost became "the champs".

The Ballard Realty was formerly a hardware store owned by Lula and Bert Rogers. Mr. Pulliam bought it, rented it to Dr. Gosnell to be used as a drugstore. However, the building was located on Beach Drive at the time. Thomas Griffith moved it to its present location with a team of horses. It is now owned and operated by Fred and Merab Ballard.

The Manchester Variety Store is owned and operated by Edith Hillstrom. Ron's Food Center is owned and operated by Ron and Marge Wilson. The building is owned by Mrs. Harry Swanson and leased to the business owners through a Seattle bank.

The Pioneer Girls organization is for girls through high school age. There is work and fun at their weekly meetings. It will be long remembered when they won the trophy for the best marching group in the Bremerton Parade.

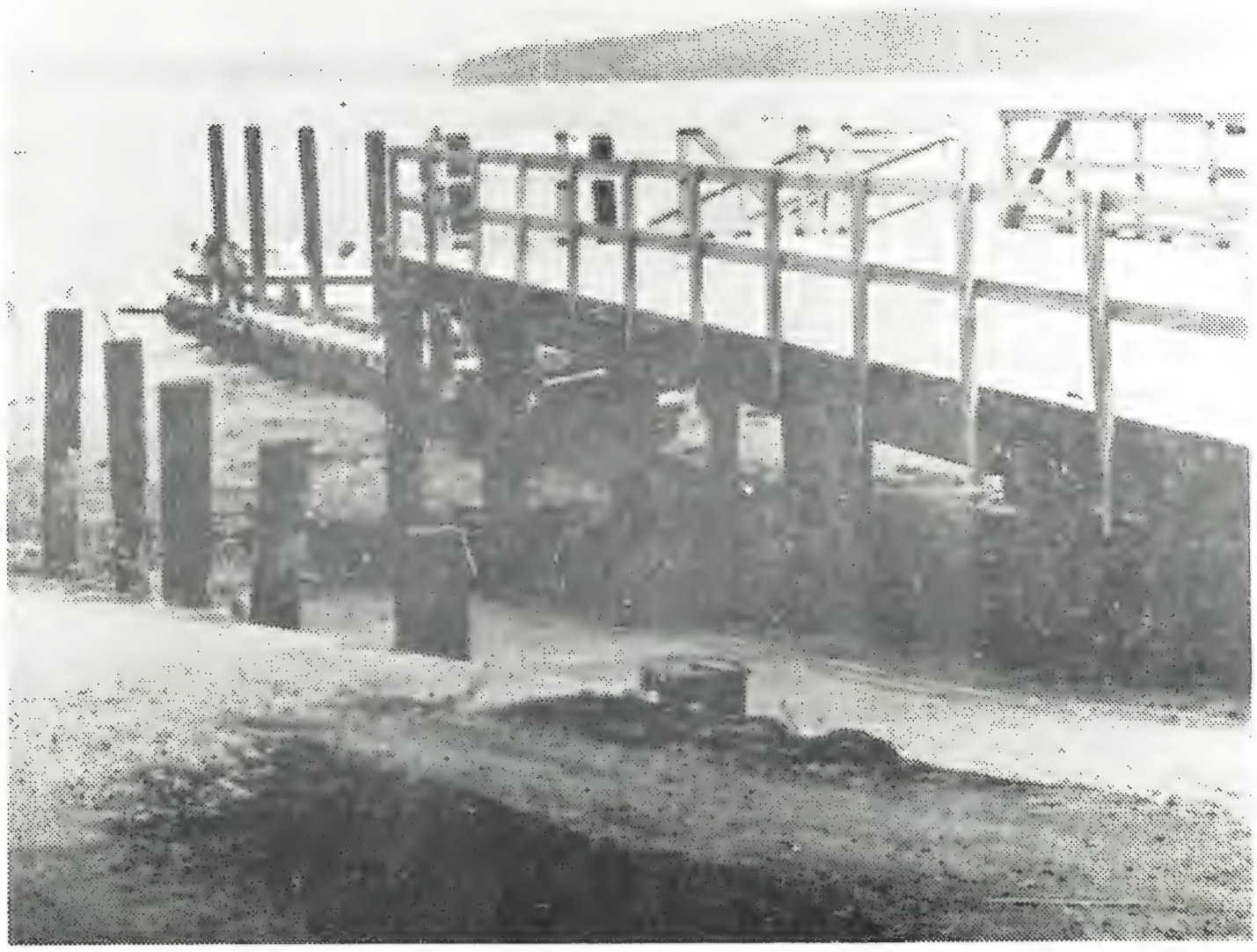
The Boys' Brigade is for all boys of school age. Besides their weekly meetings, they have quite a few hikes and overnight trips.

The men and boys play soft ball. The team's faithful fans have seen many a fine game.

The Reverend Roland Frederick has been pastor since 1958 and it is hoped that he will continue to serve our community for many years to come.

Manchester Community Church is the incorporated name. It is non-denominational, affiliated with The Independent Fundamental Churches of America, "Holding Forth The Word Of Truth".

For several years, the destruction of the old Manchester Dock and the building of a new one had been discussed. At long last, a group of volunteers gathered on Sunday, July 25, 1965 and did something about it.



Port commissioners Ron Wilson, Leonard Costello and Virgil Haynes wanted the Manchester area to be a place to go by land or sea. So, 1967 found J.A. Parks, Bainbridge Island contractor on the job, and before the year was out the dock, ramp and float was open for public use.

**Thursday, June 8, 1967, 5:20 p.m. FIRST CUSTOMER!!!!!!!!!!!**

In 1969 and 1970, sewers were installed in Manchester. We shall not dwell on the mud, broken water lines, torn up streets and other inconveniences. We shall give thanks that it is completed.

In 1969, the Memorial Fountain was restored; a plaque was added to honor George Daniels II, who gave his life in Vietnam; a bench was built; a birch tree planted, and the grounds in front of the library were beautified. Another community project.

Our little community is under county jurisdiction, but we do have three sets of commissioners who work for the good of the community. Port Commissioners are Ron Wilson, Leonard Costello and Calvin Pool. Water Commissioners are Richard Blair, Palgrave Coates and Bob Asbridge. Sewer Commissioners are Charles Randolph, John Van Boeyen and Bob Parks.

1971 is our birthday year. Our streets have been restored and our town is once again a beautiful place. Manchester is a quiet town, with a population of approximately 1120 souls, but we love it dearly! We have pleasant surroundings, tall trees, snow-capped mountains, beaches, good hunting and fishing, and the most wonderful people in the whole universe!

Digging clams on the beach at Manchester—1933—Bea Huntington and Homer Carmichael.

One of Manchester's many Christmas parties—1946

Billie Vanderbilt, Alice Daniels, Ruth Frey, Carol Dexter, Lily Kent, Daisy Helm, Blanche Swanson and Modesta Norgaar.

## THE JONAS ANDERSON FAMILY

Jonas and Elida Anderson came to the Manchester area in 1908. They homesteaded 1½ miles north of Manchester. They added to the original piece of property which was three lots when he exchanged some property in Minnesota for eleven more lots. They purchased several other parcels of land including some property on Beaver Creek.

He built a dam on the Beaver Creek property and filled a reservoir from which he supplied many of the neighbors. A big water-wheel was built outside the house.

Theirs was the first house in the area to have hot and cold water. A nice big bathtub was made of concrete. Not many people had such modern conveniences in those days.

They raised six children. Jenny lives in Seattle; Lydia at Lake Sammamish; Edgar on Hood Canal; Raymond, Hulda and Sigurd have passed away.

Elida Anderson, with son Sigurd

Two five-acre tracts next to the original homestead were purchased and one was sold to Edgar and Emma Anderson and the other one to Ray and Emma Anderson.

Ray and Emma Anderson had five children - Harry, Ed and John Moran, Mary and Ray Anderson. The Gordon Geier family now lives on Ray's five acres.

Edgar and Emma Anderson had five children - Lewis, Florence, Blanche, Grace and Ed Jr. The Glen Lentz family now lives on Edgar's five acres.

**Emma and Edgar Anderson.**

**Grace, Florence, Blanche, Edgar and Louis Anderson and their dog Rover about 1934**

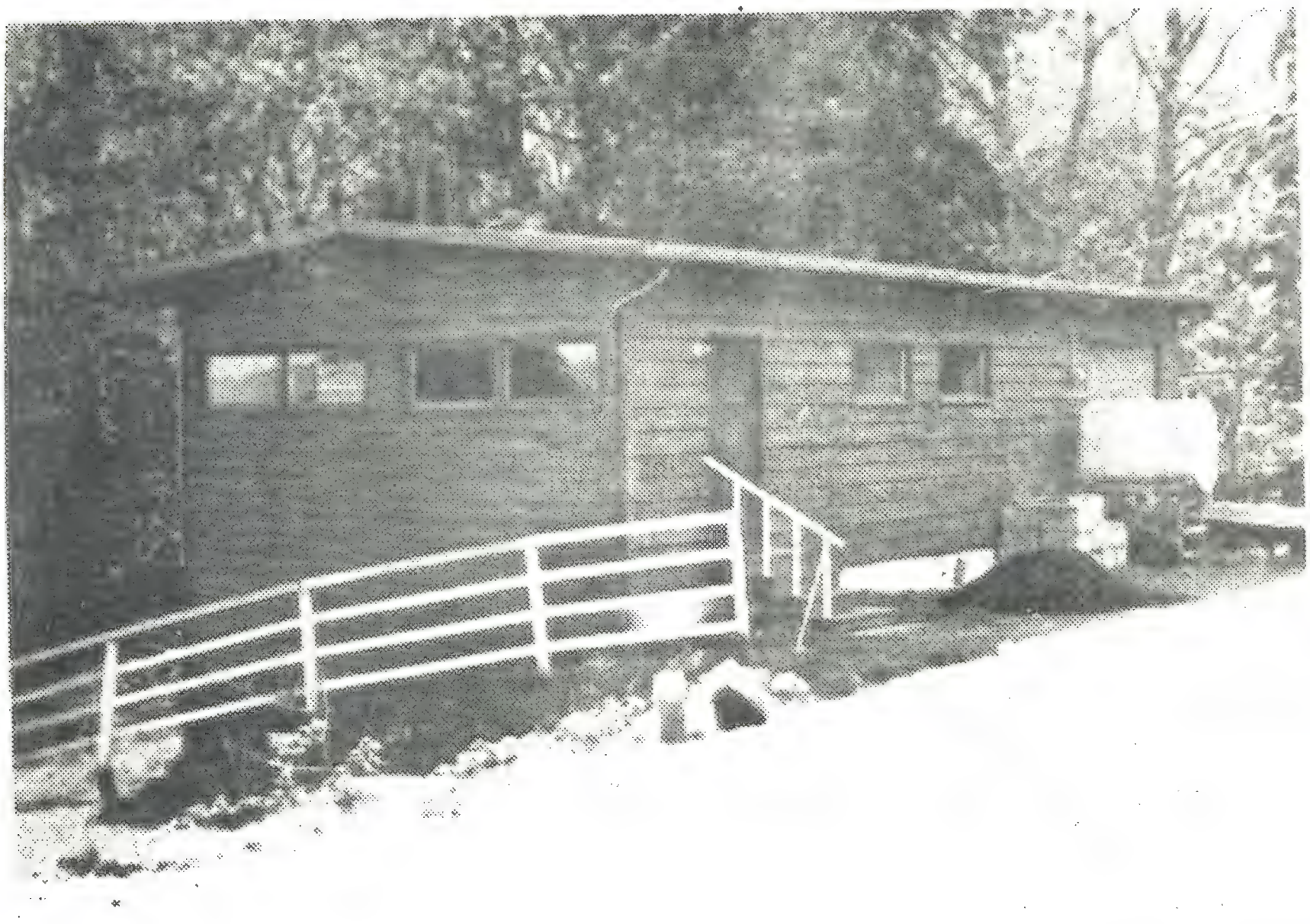
## THE ROBERT ASBRIDGE STORY

Bob and Kay Asbridge first came to Manchester in 1953 when Bob was stationed at the Fire Control School.

Two years later Bob retired and the family returned to his home in Lakeside, Montana.

He applied for work in various places and was called by the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard where he went to work Feb. 27, 1957. They settled at Long Lake until 1964 when they bought their present home on Colchester Drive.

Bob is now a shop plannerman for the Power Plant at PSNS and serves on the Board of Commissioners of the Manchester Water District.



Manchester Water Maintenance Building

Kay conceived the idea of the Thriftee Shopped where just about anything and everything could be sold on consignment. She and Caryol Cummings were partners in this venture, but after two short years sold out to Dot Morris. Kay is currently a saleslady and associate broker in Fred Ballard Realty.

They have four children. Carl is an airforce sergeant at Andrews Field, Maryland. Bob and Aimee are South Kitsap Students and Michael attends Marcus Whitman Junior High.

Ulrich ("Curly") and Thelma Bachand with Bob and Cheryl settled in Manchester in 1954. They bought the "Brock Place" on Second Avenue and after five years of apartment living this was quite an experience.

For Curly, a fireman, it was a transfer from the USN Communication Station, Port Blakely, Washington to the Naval Supply Center, Manchester Annex.

Son, Robert Bachand, started school on Bainbridge and was a second grader when arriving in Manchester. Two years after their arrival, Cheryl entered first grade as a pupil of Mrs. Everette Strode.

Manchester offered many diversions for the Bachands. Bob became a cub scout with Marie Daniels and Tonie Allen as den mothers. Later, he became a Boy Scout in Pack 536 under scoutmasters, James Jeffery and Mr. Breed. He won his 50-miler award and such names as Hurricane Ridge, Staircase, Camp Werner and Dosewallips became familiar names. He carried the Seattle Times and Bremerton Sun and met many Manchester residents and made many friends. He also became a miniature cattleman—buying, raising, selling calves and cows, but found this to be very unprofitable. He attended East Port Orchard, Orchard Heights, Marcus Whitman and South Kitsap High Schools. He entered Olympic College, but was called into the service and spent two years in the Army and had his tour of duty in Vietnam as a medic. He is currently holding a position with the Bremerton Postoffice.

Cheryl spent some of the "growing-up" time as a Girl Scout with the late Lucy Smith and Betty Heyer as leaders. She joined the Manchester Girls Club sponsored by Darlene Wiley (Ritter). She remembers one Halloween party when she won a miniature wishing well bank as first prize when she dressed as a pumpkin.

Both Bob and Cheryl took Red Cross swim classes at Memorial Pool, Bremerton and did their practicing in the waters of Little Clam Bay. Cheryl was active in bike rides and the usual summertime interests. Cougar Trail, Beaver Creek, and the beach were among the most popular of her summertime haunts.

Cheryl graduated with the class of '69 at South Kitsap and is now employed at Peninsula Plumbing as a clerk-receptionist.

Curly has been active in local bowling leagues. His hobbies are fishing and cement work.

**Fred Wood, Curly and Homer Bachand working on garage entrance. Muir House in the background.**

From the Family Album of Manchester Memories, Thelma remembers going to the Manchester Improvement Club as a guest, a source of inspiration to many and fun for all. Thelma has been a canvasser for the Cancer Drives and joined the work project on the Miracle Mile project. She often serves on the Election Board at Manchester and works as a saleslady at the Manchester Variety Store. Her hobbies are gardening, TV exercise, and creative art—and currently has a "thing" about owls.

The Bachands feel that they have had the pleasure of living on and with the best that Manchester has to offer. Second avenue has a magnificent panoramic view of rural landscapes, the fabulous Seattle Skyline and the waters of Puget Sound, a source of never-ending pleasure. They are blessed with wonderful neighbors, trusted, helpful, peaceful families. Yes, Manchester with its free blackberries, huckleberries, clean air, safe streets and much, much more is a delightful place in which to live!

## THE GRANT BALLARD STORY

Grant and Minnie Ballard moved to Manchester from Spokane in 1928. They had three children.

Fred stayed in Manchester, married in 1941, and raised four children here. He owns and operates the Real Estate Business here in Manchester that bears his name. Fred and Merab are proud of their children. Bill is with the Capitol Police Department in Washington, D.C.; Kit married Ellery Hovgaard who owns and operates the Manchester Mobil Station; Mary is Mrs. Keith Galpin of Bellingham; and Bob is attending Central Washington State College.

Florence married Marvin H. Stock of Port Orchard in 1955 and now lives in Bellevue with their four children.

Annice is now Mrs. Erle Kidd, has three children and lives in Portland.

Minnie still lives here in Manchester in a mobile home next door to Fred and Merab.

## THE ROBERT BARNEY STORY

Robert and Mary Barney bought a home in Manchester in October 1968. They have three children, Lori, Barbie and Bobby "Jo".

Bob is a Machinist, but he is fast learning to be a "jack-of-all-trades" as he works at re-building the old house on the corner of Spring and Spruce Streets. This house once belonged to "Grandma" Johnson.

**Bob Barney, with daughters Lori and Barbie—Easter 1969**

## THE RAYMOND V. BEACH STORY

Raymond and Ruth Beach, with one-year old daughter, Margaret arrived in Manchester from South Haven, Minnesota in 1919. They lived for one year in a house near the Postoffice.

Raymond worked in the Navy Yard. The first World War having ended, the boat service which the government had supplied was discontinued. John Scott owned a small boat named "The Fox". He and his friends, Raymond Beach and Arvid Olund, although inexperienced seamen took this little boat through fogs, storms and repairs for a year. However, Waterman did have boat service so the Beach family moved to Waterman where Carolyn and Virginia were born.

The Beach family were always very active in all community affairs and were dedicated church members.

Raymond was ardent in his interests in churches, schools, granges, roads, ferries, bus service and all facets of community life. He wrote "The History Of Waterman" and dedicated it to the Kitsap County Historical Society. He completed this project in 1950. In 1951, he passed away through an accident.

Ruth taught school for five years, was active in the church and in 4-H.

Their three daughters are Margaret Moore of Seattle; Carolyn Becker of Ventura, California and Virginia Alguard of Edmonds. Margaret has four children and Virginia has three.

All of the Beach grandchildren are being given advanced education—a peaceful preparation for doing some useful work in this world.

Their memories of Manchester include the views of the Cascades, the expanse of water, the Seattle scenery and Mount Rainier.

In 1919, one could walk among dogtooth violets at Orchard Point and are an unforgettable memory of Manchester. Ruth wonders in this day of ecology, if some of these things which were once a part of our environment could not be restored.

## THE CLAYTON BOWMAN STORY

The Bowman family, consisting of Clayton, Marie, Beverlee and Randy moved to Manchester in April 1943 to be near the Fuel Depot, where Clayton was employed as the first pipefitter maintenance mechanic. They have lived in their present home, purchased from Sam Denniston, except for a three-year period (1948 to 1951) when they lived at Quarters "B" when Clayton was Civilian Superintendent.

James was born while at Quarters "B".

Clayton retired from Puget Sound Naval Shipyard in 1966, as a Quarterman Pipefitter, after thirty-two years, seven months of federal service.

Marie is presently employed as a postal clerk in the Manchester Postoffice. She had a Beauty Shop in her home before moving to the Fuel Depot.

Beverlee is married to Jerry Phipps, a foreman in Ordnance PSNS. They have two daughters, Terre and Tami. They live in Manchester.

Randy served four years in the USN Medical Corps and now operates the heart-lung machine at the Virginia Mason Hospital in Seattle. He also owns and operates an antique shop "The Brass Cage" and some apartments.

James D. Bowman is presently attending Western Washington University at Bellingham, where he is a Junior and a member of the rowing team.

## THE WILHELM BREHMER STORY

Wilhelm (Bill) and Janet Brehmer came to Bremerton to visit Bill's brother in July of 1956. It was intended just to be a vacation, but Bill got a job at Boeings and the vacation ended. Jan went back to Wisner, Nebraska, sold the furniture, and brought their two sons out west. They rented a house on Alaska Street and eventually purchased that same piece of property. Louann was born after the Brehmers moved to Manchester. Bill is still working at Boeings. Their son Warren and his wife Irene live in Bremerton. Son Jim and daughter Louann are still living in the family home.

## THE BUCHAN STORY

The George Buchans rented cabins in Manchester during World War I.

**Alex and Billy Buchan during World War I. They now live in California.**

Mrs. Peter Buchan and daughter Mary. They live in California. Mary is now a grandmother.

**Elizabeth Buchan on Manchester Dock in World War I. She is now Mrs. Woodard.**

## ELEANOR BUNTING STORY

Eleanor Bunting and her four children, Myrtle, David, Daniel and Martha came to Manchester July 6, 1936 and moved onto a farm about 1⅛ miles out of town.

Myrtle is now Mrs. Wang and lives in Bremerton. She has two daughters and two grandsons.

David lives in Bremerton and has one daughter.

Daniel lives in Allyn, has three boys and one girl.

Martha is now Mrs. Bartlett and lives near Port Orchard. She has two sons.

Eleanor is justifiably proud of her nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

## THE BARBARA ANN CAMPBELL CARMICHAEL STORY

Barbara Ann has some very happy memories of Manchester. She used to visit her friends the George Buchan, Seniors and family when they rented camps at Manchester in the summers.

Her first memory of Manchester was around 1915 when George Buchan, Sr. had a picnic for "The Star Bakery" workers and a lot of friends and children. After World War I, George Buchan and his son George Buchan, Jr. opened a wholesale bakery in Seattle.

One night when Margaret and George Campbell and daughter Barbara Ann were spending a weekend with the Buchans in a camp rented to them by Mrs. Osborne up on the hill. Barbara Ann's father gave her a $5 or $10 bill to buy some pipe tobacco at Dennistons Store. Either they were out of it or would not sell it to a minor because Barbara Ann started home with the bill and a bag of candy kisses. She met her friend, Bella Buchan and some friends at the end of the dock. Barbara Ann passed the candy kisses around and had some herself. Each time a bit of the bill got torn off with the candy. Finally she noticed she had just a tiny piece of the bill in her hand and it was getting dark. That's the night that Barbara Ann really got acquainted with all the Manchester people. They gathered around with flashlights and lanterns and everyone helped to find the pieces in the sand. They finally got enough to turn in to the bank in town the next day, so she could get a new bill.

When they first came to Manchester, the Buchans pitched a tent down by the water on the left side of Manchester coming off the dock. The kids slept on straw and ate clams in the dark. They had many nice camp fires on the beach below Mrs. Osborne's home.

Barbara Ann also remembers that the Shanks had one of the nicest homes at that time; the day she and Bella Buchan rowed out near the point, the dog jumped overboard and nearly capsized the boat; learning to swim the year when they stayed in the cabin at the end of the dock; swimming at night with the phosphorous on the water; the trips back and forth on the old "Reliance" and her honeymoon in the little summer cottage to the left of Manchester coming in from the boat.

Barbara Ann is retired from Boeings and works as a volunteer at the Veterans Hospital in Seattle one day a week.

Beatrice Huntington and Homer Carmichael about 1933.

## THE NORMA BLOCK CHRISTIANSON STORY

Norma Block came to South Kitsap in 1942 with her five children. She operated Todd's Cafe in Manchester from June 1961 until February 1970, but did not move to Manchester until December 1966. She married Jim Christianson who is employed by Lent's and helps her make a home for Cheryl, who is the only one of the children still living at home.

Norman Block, Alice Whittaker, Norma Christianson, Cheryl Block, Vern Block and Harry Block.

Norman and Lynn (Wicklander) Block live in Manchester, less than a block away from both of their mothers.

Mike and Alice (Block) Whittaker live on Beach Drive in Manchester and have two daughters, Gina and Lisa.

Harry Block lost his life in a swimming accident while with a group of Manchester boys at Horseshoe Lake. He was fifteen years of age.

Vern and Connie Block live in Port Orchard and have one daughter, Commisa.

Norma never stops working, but is now operating a cafe in Annapolis.

## GILBERT COSTELLO STORY

Gilbert Stuart Costello was commercial editor of the Seattle Post Intelligencer when he met Elizabeth Anne Carey of Vancouver, British Columbia. Miss Carey was crowned Queen Anne of the Seattle Industrial Exposition and State Labor Day Celebration and reigned for two weeks during the festivities in August-September 1904.

In March 1905, Gilbert and Anne were married.

Leonard and Anne Costello

Gilbert retired in 1938 and brought his family to a ten-acre place between Harper and South Colby. They raised chickens and turkeys and had a vegetable garden. Gilbert passed away in 1948.

Anne sold the home at South Colby and bought a home in Manchester from Ole Nelson. Anne had a ceramics shop in back of their home.

Their son Leonard worked in the dry cleaners in Bremerton. When the Modern Cleaners was opened in Manchester, Leonard went to work doing the spotting and dry cleaning.

From 1942 until 1945, Leonard worked at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard. He went back to work at the Shipyard in 1950 and worked there until October 1957 when he was retired on a disability.

Anne passed away in 1958.

Leonard was Chief Observer for the Aircraft Warning Service from 1941 through 1943. He has been Democratic Committeeman since 1958 and a member of the Port Commission since 1960. The Port Commission made it possible to build a dock and a launching ramp for small boats in Manchester.

Leonard has been a member of the Grange for thirty years; the Toastmasters for six years. He is the last of the Costello family. He has a sister in California and a married niece in Issaquah.

Leonard expects to live out the rest of his life right here among his many friends in Manchester.

## THE EARL DAGNIE FAMILY

Earl arrived in Manchester for awhile in a one-room cabin working as a construction electrician at what is now the Oil Depot. He commuted to Seattle on the workers ferry as Ina, Robert and Dave were living in Everett.

It looked like the job would last for awhile, so the family moved over on Labor Day 1941 along with a little black cocker spaniel. Bob and Dave started to school in the little two-room school at the top of the hill.

Life was an adventure for the boys. When they weren't exploring the woods, trapping skunks and coon, they were out on the bay. One adventure of note was being "shipwrecked" on Blake Island and being rescued by the Coast Guard. Another was trapping a skunk and roasting it over an open fire, coming home smelling like the skunk they had eaten.

The family continued to live in Manchester after the completion of the oil dock. Earl continued in the construction trade commuting to Seattle to work in heavy industry.

In 1951, Bob graduated from South Kitsap High. Started to college at Olympic, but quit at the end of the first quarter and joined the Coast Guard.

In 1954, Dave graduated from high school and both he and Ina enrolled at Olympic College in the fall. They both graduated two years later. Dave went to Boeings as an engineering aide and Ina enrolled at the University of Washington.

When Bob was released from the service, he returned to Manchester to continue his education. However life had changed as he had married and during the next year Linda came to join the Dagnies. Three years later Robin joined her sister.

In 1959, Ina completed her college career with a Bachelor of Science in Home Economics Education, and started her teaching career.

Also in 1959, Bob brought his daughters to live at the family home in Manchester. In 1962 he graduated from Washington State University with a Bachelor of Science in Forestry and is presently employed by Greenacres, a consulting firm that specializes in all facets of forestry and is presently in Indonesia.

Dave graduated from the University of Washington with two engineering degrees, one in mechanical, the other in industrial engineering. He is presently employed by Georgia Pacific Pulp and Timber Co. in Bellingham.

In 1971, Earl, still following the construction trade and riding ferries; Ina teaching Home Economics at North Mason, Belfair; Bob, overseas, with a home address of Manchester; Linda, a sophomore at South Kitsap; Robin, a seventh grader at Marcus Whitman. There have been many changes in the lives of the Dagnies during the past thirty years, but it has been a good life in Manchester.

## THE SAMUEL A. DENNISTON FAMILY

Sam and Jennie Denniston moved to Manchester with their seven children in the fall of 1900. They purchased ten acres of what is now the area from the tidelands to Spring Street and from Main Street to Spruce Street. There was a partially completed house on the property started by a mill official, who left after the mill burned. Mr. Denniston, a carpenter by trade, completed the groom house. Royal was the oldest of the children, but as he was in his twenties he was not home very much. Will, the second son, went into business with his father in the General Store. When he married Rose Martin in 1912, a home was built for him on the property now owned by Mrs. Pomeroy. Miss Emma Denniston, the third child, taught in Colby Elementary School before teaching in Seattle schools, where she taught for many years. May Denniston, the fourth child taught in Seattle schools also until she married A.G. Oakley. Miss Clara Denniston was the next child. She lived most of her eighty years in Manchester, caring for various members of the family, gardening, and working in Sunday School and church, as well as other community projects. Samuel H. Denniston became a building contractor. He lives in Manchester in the home built for him when he married Rose Lanser in 1914. Alvin Denniston, the youngest, lives on Woods Road. He has a fine farm. Samuel H. and Alvin L. Denniston are the last two members of the Samuel A. Denniston family who are still living. Now the grandchildren are carrying on. J. Frances Denniston Vannorsdel, the oldest daughter of Roy Denniston, has lived in Manchester at various times in her life and has for the past sixteen years been living near the old home. William A. Denniston, son of Will, owns the old home and the surrounding lots. Alex Oakley, Jr., son of May, also owns a lot here in Manchester.

**Back row: A.G. Oakley, May Denniston Oakley, Cecil Denniston (Roy's second wife), Emma Denniston, Sam Denniston II, Rose Denniston (Will's wife), Will Denniston, Alvin Denniston. Kneeling or sitting: Roy Denniston, Jennie with Roy's boy, Royal, Samuel A. Denniston with Frances Denniston (Vannorsdel) and Clara Denniston.**

The Old Denniston Home (With Sam II, Lorene, Frances, Jennie, Alvin and Sam Denniston).

## THE GORDON DUNDAS FAMILY

In September 1951, Gordon and Adele Dundas and their three children settled in Manchester Heights. Mary Ann was a senior, Grace a freshman and Graham was in the third grade.

Gordon is a welder at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard and is looking forward to his retirement in September of 1971.

Mary Ann married Thomas J. Critton. They have two children, Coleen and Gregory. They lived in Cincinnati, Ohio where Tom is employed as a mechanical engineer by the Cincinnati Shaper Co.

Grace married Robert Kent. They have two children, Kevin and Colin. Robert is a Civil engineer with Lockheed Aircraft. They live in Cupertino. California.

Graham married Gloria Avery of Matlock, Washington. They have two children, Ronda and Darren. Graham is a barber in Shelton.

## THE MARION (BUD) EDWARDS FAMILY

Bud and Bernadyne first arrived in Washington in September 1956, from California. The Navy had transferred Bud to the BremGroup Reserve Fleet. While based here, JoAnn and Geretta were born. In October 1958, Bud was transferred back to California to spend the next six years. Mike was born in San Diego and Carolyn in Stockton, California. Inasmuch as their hearts had been left in Washington State, Bud and the family returned in 1964 when Bud was discharged from the Navy. They settled in Port Orchard for a year and then moved to Manchester Beach near the James Vinson family. In 1966, the Lord opened the way for them to buy their own home in Manchester on Spring Street. Martha Rose was born that same year. Bud is employed at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard as an electrician. The children go to Orchard Heights and Marcus Whitman Schools and the whole family attend the South Park Assembly of God Church in Port Orchard. Bud and Bernadyne will celebrate their 15th wedding anniversary on July 22, 1971. One other important member of the Edwards household is shown on page 52. He is named after the town.

Viking Edward of Manchester

## THE GEORGE ESSENDRUP FAMILY

George and Theo Essendrup and their two children, Georgene and Norman came to Manchester in 1934. They made Manchester their permanent home, but commuted to Seattle to sail on the Halibut Boats and work in logging camps.

Norman Essendrup and his wife, Pearl, have a daughter Norma. They live in Manchester Heights.

Georgene married Ernest Todd in 1937. They have two daughters, Connie and Sherie. Each of their daughters has three sons.

George and Theo Essendrup

## THE ERNEST ARVID FORSMARK STORY

Arvid and Hilma Forsmark and their daughter, Victoria came from Kiruna, Sweden and arrived in Manchester in 1912. Arvid was a carpenter and a blacksmith by trade. After acquiring his citizenship, he worked in the Navy Yard until he passed away in 1930.

George Elms, who owned the property from Nublings Creek to the Allen Hodge property was starting a chicken business and Ginsing Garden bed. Both were new projects at that time and much building had to be done. Mr. Elms hired Arvid. The Forsmarks lived in three rooms, upstairs of the boarding house which Hilma converted into an apartment home. This boarding house was left from a lumber mill which had been started many years before. Mr. Elms acquired the farm from the mill. Later they moved to the Johnson house on the hill near the Community Church. Mrs. Barton lives there now. They bought lots from Mr. Huston and Arvid and Hilma cleared and built a two-room house. Arvid carried many 2 x12's from the beach. They were unclaimed and floated in with the tides. Sam Denniston had a launch. Arvid hired him to tow a scow of brick from the Harper Brick Yard and lumber from the Colby mill. Arvid and Hilma carried it up the hill from the beach by wheelbarrows.

Victoria, Arvid and Hilma Forsmark

Vickey attended school in Manchester from 1912 to 1914. They moved to Seattle and she attended Youngstown School for 7th and 8th grades. Then they moved back to Manchester, but Vickey attended highschool at Queen Anne in Seattle. The trip each day started at 6:15 a.m. They caught "The Reliance" "Burton" or "Suquamish" and went by way of Colby, South Colby, Harper, Southworth and into Seattle, where they landed at Pier 3, where Ivar's Restaurant is now. They took the cable car up to Queen Anne. Home again at 5:15 p.m. to Southworth, Harper, South Colby, Colby and Manchester, where the boat tied up for the night arriving around 7 or 8 o'clock, because of the unloading of grain and hay at all the different stops. This was done with hand dollies by the deck hands. In 1921, South Kitsap High School was built and they were able to travel by truck on the narrow rutted county roads. Vickey graduated in 1922. The highlights of their social lives were the church and school programs. People came from miles around whether they had children attending or not. Basket socials, music programs and beautiful plays put on by Miss Fanny Giles. In winter time, the sledding down the Manchester Hill and the skating on the Charles Olund pond was very good. Mr. Olund kept the pond clean and clear, for he enjoyed having people come.

Vickey especially remembers the delivery of the mail, which arrived on the boat around 7 or 8 p.m. Manchester was mainly wooded, with paths going to each house. Some one would walk down to the landing and store. It was dark and you could see the families coming with their lanterns shining winding through the trees along the paths. Each lantern was individual and it was known to which family it belonged. The lanterns were left outside the store, turned down low, while the mail was sorted by Mr. Denniston. The men sat around the stove, smoking and talking of local and world events. The youngsters played on the beach or boardwalk in the lantern light. When the mail was distributed each one would get his or her mail, take up his lantern and wind his way home to read the letters and the Seattle Star newspaper.

Their neighbors were the Paul Nelsons, the William Ulbergs, Mrs. Allen Pyser, The Lees, The Gouchers, Lula and Bert Rogers, Fred Rollos, the Sigurdssons, Daniels, Dennistons, Capt. Wallace, the Charles Olunds, Olaf Johnson, the Nublings. A few miles apart meant nothing in those days.

The Nublings, who had the hotel, saw many good times in the large front room and dining room. The ladies would meet and have their meetings, tie comforts and so forth.

**The hotel and boardwalk**

Vickey married Ed Olund and after her parents passed away in 1930 and 1931 she and Ed moved into the old family home. Ed passed away in 1959. They had one daughter, Edith, who is now Mrs. Strandness, and Edith has four children.

Ed's sister, Edith Olund, sold the family home in Waterman and came to Manchester to be with Vickey.

Vickey and Edith are both wonderful people and enjoy their many friends in Waterman and Manchester.

## THE HERBERT FREY STORY

Herbert J. and Ruth S. Frey moved to Manchester in March of 1942. Herb was transferred from PSNS to the Manchester Fuel Depot when it started operation in March of 1942. They bought a house from Ernest and Marie Reuter. Ruth worked part time for Mrs. Randall in the drugstore. The drugstore was then housed in the building where Fred Ballard Realty is now. It also contained the post office at that time.

In February 1950 they adopted John who was six months old. In April they sold their house and bought the one next door from Mrs. Harold Dow. It was the former Alfred Reuter place.

In April of 1953 they adopted 22-month old Delores.

In 1957, Ruth started working part time for Mrs. Randall in the post office. When Mrs. Randall retired in 1963, Jean Olson was appointed postmaster and Ruth continued working for Jean. That same year they moved to Quarters B at the Fuel Depot where they are still living.

John graduated from South Kitsap in 1967 and is working in California.

Delores graduated from South Kitsap in 1970 and is a telephone operator for Pacific Northwest Bell in Seattle.

## THE GOODRICH FAMILY

Manchester was a place where the Goodrich family went in the summer. During the rest of the year Mr. and Mrs. Goodrich worked in Seattle and Jim and John attended school. Manchester was a refuge from big city life and they loved it.

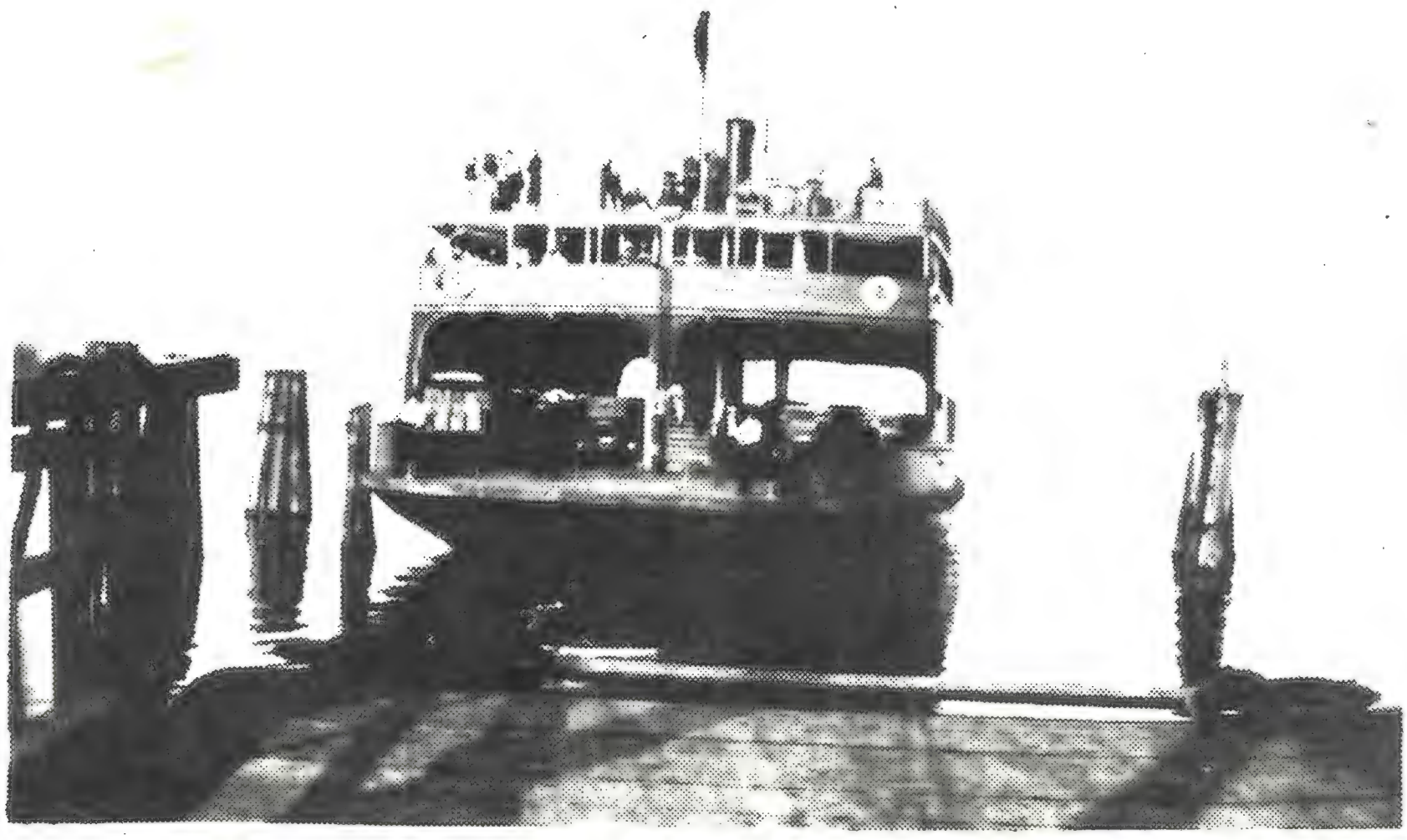
Jim vividly recalls playing in the sand and walking logs...digging for clams ...skipping rocks on the water...building make-shift rafts...exploring the debris left by an incoming tide...picking trilliums at the point...and constructing secret hide-outs in the woods.

Other memories include the bonfires that lined the beach on the 4th of July and the accompanying fireworks, toasted marshmallows..watermelon, fishing for smelt at night with the Daniels family as they dropped their nets at the mouth of Clam Bay...swimming in the buff in the relatively warm water of that same bay...picking wild blackberries for the magnificent price of seventy-five cents a gallon (an all-day excursion into the hills)...the lemonade stands along the boardwalk in summer...the "giant" rope swing over the gully on the other side of the highway from the gravel pit...fishing for rock cod among the kelp at the point...getting dusty foreheads and noses from fishing through the cracks on the dock...swimming in that cold, salt water and then shivering against the sun-warmed shed...the sandlot baseball games by the Denniston boathouse...playing Kick-The-Can long after twilight...looking for coins that careless people dropped through the cracks in the boardwalk by the stores...the socializing at mail time at Al Reuter's grocery store...and the pinball machines, punchboards and cokes at Ellen Randall's drugstore.

Few people were untouched by the Great Depression of the 1930's. The Goodrich Family lost their home in Seattle and were forced to move to Manchester permanently in 1933, their home for the first year being a series of tents on a raised wooden platform. Their illumination was lamplight...their heating and cooking facility a wood-burning stove...their plumbing a cold water tap outside and an outhouse back by the berry bushes!

Two of the big events in Manchester life were the burning of the Manchester Inn one summer night in the mid-30's and the maiden voyage of the streamlined Kalakala ferry on the Bremerton run.

Ferryboats played an important part of Manchester life in the "old days". Jim will never forget the Airline, Beeline and Crosline (which had moonlight cruises) and the whistles that announced their arrival and departure all day long and into the night. Part of one summer in the 1930's a strike crippled the ferry system, leaving hundreds of commuters facing a dilemma.



The Crosline

For Jim Goodrich, the memories won't stop! A miniature golf craze that swept the country during the depression came to Manchester, too. A Mr. Holland built a course, with sand fairways, down by the beach near the old Daniels home.

As Jim grew older, his horizons broadened. The acquisition of his first car...a 1927 Oldsmobile...made it possible to travel to such places as Horseshoe Lake, Hood Canal and Port Orchard. The big event on Saturday nights was the dance at the South Colby Grange Hall. If you didn't learn the polka and schottische, you were in trouble.

Memories also include riding bicycle up and down the hills of Manchester, delivering the Seattle Star...playing poker for nickels, pennies and tax tokens with Don and Bob Denniston, Roy Daniels, Dave Soyat, Walt Halverson and George Vanderbilt...fishing for skate and dogfish at night off the dock...the one-room school on top of the hill where Miss Chisholm taught all six grades...roller skating at the rink in Port Orchard...buying eggs at the Dennistons for eighteen cents a dozen...and selling ferry schedules for a penny to motorists waiting for the ferry!

John is now living in Seattle and Jim is in California. Mr. and Mrs. Goodrich passed away in 1960 and 1964.

The Goodrich Family agree that Manchester was a wonderful place in which to grow up. They feel their lives will always be richer for having lived in Manchester and known its warm-hearted and friendly inhabitants. After all, no town is any better than the people who live there. With neighbors like the Nittebergs, the Dennistons and the Daniels, it would have been hard not to like Manchester.

## THE ROBERT GOUCHER FAMILY

Robert and Emma Goucher with their children Charles, Barney and Agnes moved to Manchester in 1907. They bought the Mueller farm on top of the hill. The house is still standing, although the original house burned down in 1909.

Brother John was born in 1909 and Clarence (now deceased) was born in 1911 and William in 1913, all born in Manchester.

Robert passed away in 1914 and Clarence in 1923. Both are buried in the old Colby Cemetery. Emma passed away in 1965.

Charles retired to Whidbey Island after thirty years with Lowman and Hanford Company.

Barney put in twenty-five years with Lynch Manufacturing Company, is now retired and has moved next door to Charles on Whidbey Island.

John has a summer home on Whidbey, but has been a King County Assessor for the past thirty years.

William is an attorney with the firm of Lundin, Barte and Goucher in Seattle.

Agnes was with the Pacific Northwest Bell Telephone Company for thirty years, is retired and now living on Vancouver Island. She married after retiring and is now Mrs. S. Erickson.

Karl and Elsie became Manchesterites via an invitational house-raising party for Mrs. Caves, or "Winks" as she was called. After the fetching, carrying, handing and lunch were out of the way, the four ladies went for a tramp through the woods. Winks and her two daughters, Mary McCuster of Bremerton and Ina Jones of Manchester witnessed the love match between Elsie Griffin and the wee hollow-eyed lonely cabin hidden among the trees and blackberry bushes on Martin Street. They came out of the woods and there it stood with its unseeing eyes and a "For Sale" sign just crying out to be cared for and loved.

Karl was just out of the Navy and earning $22.50 per week. When Elsie broke the news to him that she wanted to buy this forlorn little cabin, he said, "Fine! Go right ahead, just let me know later what you used for money."

Nothing ventured, nothing gained! Morning found Elsie at the bank when the doors opened. The most they would loan on their Packard was $380. She went directly to Olympia, got a Washington registration on the car and secured the loan.

Ed and Clara Wintemute who lived up the road from the cabin, called the owner, Mrs. Adessa Lanning who came over from Seattle. Her price for the cabin and five acres was $600. Elsie offered the car loan and ten dollars a month. After some conversation and considerable thought, Mrs. Lanning sold the cabin to the Griffins for $340. The cabin had been her honeymoon home. They had built it in 1905 and 1906 and had lived there for many years after that. She was glad that two young people would have it again.

So on March 12, 1941 the Griffins became the proud owners of the wee windowless, doorless mansion and five acres (with no water).

Karl borrowed tools from his boss at City Cleaners and Elsie put in window glass and scrubbed. The papered walls were a total loss, so Elsie sent to Sears for their cheapest linoleum, paste and a wood stove with a water reservoir. With the aid of a few long branches, boards and a couple of nail barrels, Elsie covered the walls and floors with the linoleum and when the stove arrived, they moved in as March went out in the most lion-like fashion of the century.

During World War II, while working for Bartows Cafe by the ferry landing the Bartows mentioned they had no further use for the building which they had been renting to men workers and wondered what they could do with it. Elsie soon had poor Karl roped into Manchester's first cleaning shop, which they opened on borrowed money. This cleaning shop was housed in the same building where the Manchester Variety Store is now.

Karl, Elsie and son, Duane Burke dug seven dry holes before they hit water in the eighth hole at twenty-two feet. After two years of digging, their water-hauling days were over. If they could have divided those holes up into post-holes and found a market for them, they could have had a well drilled right away and would not have had to wait for thirty years until March 22, 1971 for the driller to start.

They built by kerosene lamp at night and they both worked days. The years went by and they grew to love it more. Finally, they had a kitchen and bathroom built on. Karl's father and sister came from Illinois to live with them. Five people, a fox terrior and a canary can't live very long in two and a half rooms, so they acquired their first mortgage to build another house.

Through the fifties most of Manchester's children and many of the grownups picked and used the strawberries and raspberries on four of their acres. Elsie remembers seeing rocks and leaves in many of the basket bottoms, put there by eager little hands wanting more than they earned.

Duane went to Manchester School until it closed, then to Givens School, graduated from South Kitsap, earned his degree in electrical engineering from the University of Washington while working at Boeings. He is now a Computer Time Sharing Services Administrator for the Boeing Computer Services, Inc. He is married and has two children.

Although they fought the Scotch Broom, ferns and brush and are still having a bit of scuffle with it from time to time, the Griffins maintain that Manchester is the only place to live and raise a family...the banana belt of the Pacific Northwest.

## THE THOMAS GRIFFITH STORY

Thomas N. and Lilly M. Griffith moved from Bainbridge Island to Waterman on a raft in 1919. They moved to Manchester in 1926. They raised nine children...Eva, Robert, Margaret, Blanche, Bill, Chester, Virginia, Lilly and Esther.

**Thomas and Lilly Griffith**

Tom worked at miscellaneous jobs...blacksmith, logger, well digger. He also worked at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, Old Ammunition Depot, The Oil Depot in Manchester; picked evergreens, made wreaths and cider rope. Many people came to him for advice on doctoring animals.

They lived first near the Manchester Park. In 1941, they bought three acres on Virginia Avenue in Manchester Heights and lived there until their deaths in 1955 and 1966.

**The house on Virginia Street**

Most of the children still live in or near Manchester.

Eva Dolen bought one acre of this property and lives there at the present time. She has four children. Jim O'Donnell, a Coast Guard career man is married and has a son; daughter Connie Wood and family live next to Eva on Virginia Avenue property; Larita Bigelow is in nurse's training in Wenatchee; and Bob Bigelow lives with his father in Brewster, Washington. Eva is a local artist. She and her husband John enjoy building on their home. Eva still remembers the time she trapped a bear in the old woodshed. The bear didn't stay there and neither did Eva or the woodshed.

Robert Griffith married Ellen Jensen of Silverdale. He served with the Air Force during World War II and has many missions to his credit. They built their home in Manchester. They have two children. Barbara is now working and living in Seattle. Stan is a student at South Kitsap.

Margaret Griffith married Edward O'Donnell of Manchester. They now live in Bremerton. They have five children. Donald is married, has two children and step-children and lives in Idaho. Pat married Jim Mauldin, has three children, lives in Florida. Dale is married, has three children, lives in Tacoma. Mike and Sheila are still at home.

Blanche McEdwards lives in Port Orchard with her two youngest children, Margaret and Chuck. She had four children by a previous marriage, but only three of these are still living. Lilly Jean Helms married Gus Muni and is the mother of five children. Dorothy Helms married Leonard Olson. They live on Alaska Street in Manchester Heights with their three children. Dorothy is a local artist. Bob Helms is working at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard as an electrician apprentice. He is married and lives in Bremerton.

Bill and Connie Griffith live on the North Shore of Hood Canal. He is the best known of the Griffith Family, having owned and operated the Belfair Barn for many years and appeared on radio and television. He still owns The Barn, but the roof fell down during the high winds and heavy snows of the past winter. He is now active in real estate and is President of Belfair's Chamber of Commerce. He has two daughters. Dee married Jim Wisher and has two children. Judy is a South Kitsap student. Some of you may recall Bill's interest in diving. He once made his own diving helmet, tied himself with bricks. He almost drowned in Clam Bay.

Chester Griffith married Charlene Brevick of LaConner. Chester also served in World War II. His company was one of the first to cross the Rhine River in Germany. They had five children. Ronnie and Linda are living in the family home at Belfair. Gary is now serving in the Army. Roger is in Nevada. Troy is in Tacoma.

Virginia Griffith married Carl Hinds of Lima, Ohio while he was stationed in Washington with the Navy. They have four children and live in East Bremerton. Randy has been awarded the DFC, Air Medals and Purple Heart. He was a helicopter pilot. Steve is in Air Force Communications. Paul is an East High graduate. Virginia is an East Bremerton Student. They all enjoy music. They play various instruments. Carl works at Sears Roebuck.

Lily and Glen Kelly live in Montesano. They have four children. Reta and Jim Knott lived in Manchester for a short while before moving to Puyallup. Kenneth is a cartoonist. Clarissa, Kenneth and Malissa all live in the family home. Glen and Lilly are proud of their two granddaughters, Tina Lin and Tresa Louise.

Esther Griffith married Lawrence May of Port Orchard. They have three children, Tommy, Gladys and Kristy, all of the family home. Before her marriage Esther was active in South Kitsap Horse Clubs and won many ribbons with her palomino mare, Taboo.

## JOHN HALVORSON FAMILY

John Halvorson came to Colby Territory in 1902. Three of his sons became Manchester / Waterman settlers and raised their families in this area (Olaf Johnson, John Johnson and Halvord J. Segerquist).

John became active as a missionary to the Indians in the surrounding areas. He often traveled by rowboat and covered areas as far as Poulsbo and Silverdale.

When John died, at the age of 86 years, he was living with his son, Olaf. Olaf, Halvord and John built the wooden casket for their father's body.

Services were held in the Johnson home and burial, via wagon, was in the Colby Cemetery.

John Halvorson

## LOUIS HANLIN STORY

Louis and Violet Hanlin came to Kitsap County during the early years of World War II and Louis worked in the Navy Yard. One married daughter, Dorothy joined him with her young son Jerry Phipps (who now lives in Manchester). Dorothy also worked in the Navy Yard.

Louis and Violet Hanlin

The Hanlins have six children...Glen, Dorothy, Millie, Donald, Bobby and Rosie.

The three boys served in the Armed Forces.

The Hanlins returned to their home in Colville after the war. On December 20, 1956 they came to Manchester to take care of the children of Glen Hanlin. They returned to Colville in 1957 and have lived there ever since.

Glen Hanlin lived for many years in Manchester with his family, but now lives in Bremerton and works in the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard.

## THE HEADDING FAMILY

The George Headding family moved to Manchester in September 1939. They moved from Everett to Bremerton for several months before renting a small house from Belle and Robert Garder. The rent was $8. and there was no plumbing whatsoever.

They had to pump water. One day Theo discovered the remains of a snake in the pail so with the help of Frank Jones, the well was cleaned.

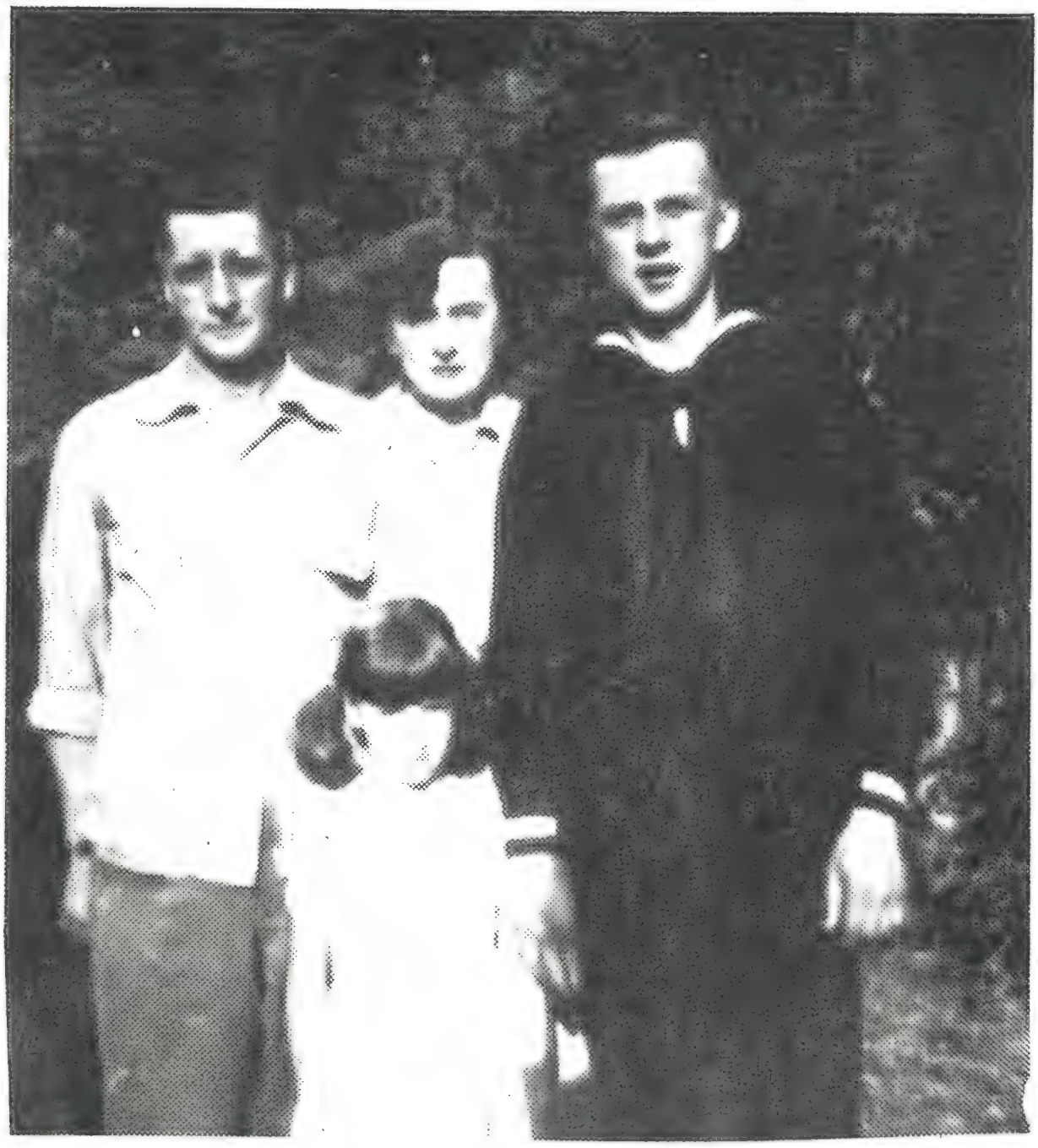
Diane Jones, Barbara Headding, Billy Headding—1941

July 4th, 1940 was a beautiful sunny day and the Headdings and guests from Snohomish went out to Long Lake for a swim. Coming back into town they discussed what happens in case of a fire where they were so far from a fire station and Theo said, "Oh, they just let it burn". So, imagine their surprise when they drove up Main Street and turned on First Street to see their household furniture sitting out in the street. The Community Hall on the corner of Main and First Streets (directly across from Sig Olund's) had burned to the ground. Everyone left in Manchester had gone into the Headding's house and carried everything outside, even the heavy cast iron kitchen range. The Hall was only a short distance from the house, so it really was a miracle that it didn't go up in smoke.

In 1944, they bought the place on Clam Bay from John Day. Theo still lives there.

All three children attended Manchester School and graduated from South Kitsap. Barbara went on to graduate from Providence School of Nursing in Everett and now lives in Belpre, Ohio with her husband Bernard Fries and four children.

Bill served four years in the Navy and is now an electrician in the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard. He built a house near Crescent Lake. He and his wife Martha have three daughters.



**George, Theo, Bill and Georgia Headding**

Georgia went to IBM School and worked at the Pacific National Bank in Seattle. She married Vance Easterday and has two small boys. They live at Colonial Park, near Parkwood, in Port Orchard.

Theo worked as Deputy Auditor at the Kitsap County Courthouse for six years.

## THE MARGARET HOTEN STORY

Margaret came to the State of Washington in February 1935 after spending most of her early life in the midwest, living in Sioux City, Iowa and Omaha, Nebraska. After her son and three daughters had married and moved to the Seattle area, she decided to come west also.

She had never seen high mountains, taller than the Ozark range in Southern Missouri, her childhood home. The Ozarks are no higher that western foothills. She had never visited either the Atlantic or Pacific Coast, nor seen ships or boats larger than those of the Old Diamond Jo Line that ran from St. Paul, Minnesota to St. Louis, Missouri on the Mississippi River. These were both freight and passenger boats, often towing huge rafts of logs to the large saw mills on both sides of the Mississippi in Iowa and Illinois, logs that were cut in the woods of Minnesota. Her parents and their four children...Annie Swearingin of Doty, Washington, Henry Gerten of Raymond, and John Gerten of Spokane

and Margaret left Chicago after several years and moved to Fulton, Illinois; later moving to the Ozarks in Taney County, Missouri. While living in Chicago's north side, they lived near Lincoln Park on Lake Michigan. They often visited there in summer enjoying the sailboats floating like large white swans and heard the wind as it rustled the leaves on the tall oak trees. But never had she seen salt water with its tides nor the big freighters tied at the docks along the waterfront.

Arriving in Seattle, she was fascinated by the large freight and passenger ships, the busy crews working on the docks and she wondered where they came from and where they would go.

Her first ferry ride was on the Commander sailing to Bremerton on the Seattle-Bremerton run; while not as large as the super-ferries of today, it was much larger than their one lone ferry called the "Vernie Swain", which ran from Fulton, Illinois to Clinton, Iowa (known then as Lyons, Iowa). It had a small cabin for passengers and a deck for wagons and teams. The fare was five cents for passengers, and twenty-five cents for team and driver for the mile crossing. As a child, Margaret was thrilled by even such a short ride.

After a few years of living in Washington State, she began working for the Black Ball Ferry Line on Puget Sound. Her first run was the Seattle-Bremerton run. During World War II traffic on Puget Sound was very heavy and she was later transferred to the Iroquois on the Vancouver-Seattle run.

Margaret never grew tired of watching the water and the ribbons of red, green and gold lights swirling past as they backed out of the dock and into the channel.

Later, she was again transferred and on the Seattle to Winslow run she caught her first glimpse of MANCHESTER. As they rounded the point of Bainbridge Island they could see the Mainland. As usual she asked one of the crew the names of the places along the route. She was told that Port Orchard was the one on the south, and the one below that was a place called Manchester, at one time a ferry stop until the route was changed, but the docks remained.

**The dock and houses along beach**

Most of all she remembers Manchester at Christmas time with all the homes a blaze of beautiful lights; really worth seeing.

As the one hundredth birthday celebration at Manchester draws near, Margaret hoped it will again be a lovely show of color against the night sky, reminding the passengers and crew on the passing ferries that, while no longer a stop for them, it is still on the map and growing a bit each year. Maybe they will someday stop here again.

Now that Margaret is a resident of Manchester, as are her two daughters, Lucille Kinnecom and Dorothy Miller, she enjoys living near the water. Although she retired from the ferry service ten years ago, like most "Old Salts", her heart still sails with the ships that cross Puget Sound.

## THE WILSON IRISH FAMILY

Wilson Earl Irish was born in Silverdale and lived most of his life in Kitsap County. Mary was born and raised in Dallas, Texas. They met in Seattle where Mary was working for the F.B.I.

They started their married life in Riffe, Washington which is now under the lake behind Mossyrock Dam. They celebrated their silver wedding anniversary June 29, 1971

Wilson and Mary moved to Manchester in 1952 with daughters Jean Ann, Barbara Ellen and Alice Leota who were born in Morton, and Susan Eileen who was born in Bremerton. After their arrival in Manchester, they added two boys and a girl to the family...William Eugene, Robert Albert and Nancy Louise.

Jean married Keith Dunbar. They have one daughter, Lana. They live in Portland, Oregon.

Barbara married Kirk DaZelle, a career Navy man presently stationed in Seattle. They have two daughters, Melanie and Stephanie.

Alice married Roy Justice. They have one daughter, Melinda.

Susan has just returned home from Portland, Oregon where she has been attending Portland Community College.

Bill, Bob and Nancy are all high school students at South Kitsap. Both of the boys have had paper routes in Manchester.

Wilson has almost thirty years in the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard where he is shop plannerman in the Forge Shop. He plans on retiring in about two years.

**Top row: Bill Irish, Alice Irish Justice, Roy Justice, Jean Irish Dunbar, Barbara Irish DaZelle, Keith Dunbar, Kirk DaZelle. Middle Row: Bob Irish, Susan Irish, Nancy Irish. Front row: Mary Irish holding Melanie DaZelle and Wilson Irish holding Lana Dunbar.**

## THE BEN JOHNSON FAMILY

Ben and Inga Johnson came to Manchester with two-year old Earl, during a severe snowstorm in February 1917. They located in Manchester because it reminded them of their native Norway. Kermit was born in 1918.

They helped build Manchester's board walks, attended the Manchester Community Church and the boys both attended the Manchester School.

**Inga, Kermit, Ben and Earl Johnson—1933.**

Earl with his wife and two children now live in Yelm, Washington.

Kermit and Beulah with daughters, Lenore and Marlene, live right here in Manchester.

**Kermit Johnson, by picket fence and smokehouse, typical of that day and age.**

Earl Johnson and Kurt Greenberger Manchester Dock—1930

## NELS MAGNUS JOHNSON FAMILY

Coming from Sweden to Manchester in 1909 were Mr. and Mrs. Nels Magnus Johnson with their two small sons, Lars and Edwin. They rented the old Charles Olund place before moving to Waterman, making their home near the Beaver Creek Road. There were two more sons born to the couple, Anard and Stanley, and three daughters, Adena, Linnea and Hulda. Hulda remembers how they would all get in their Chevrolet touring car for a ride to Manchester for groceries. "Sometimes we'd even get an ice cream cone." The time they would look forward to most was when Papa paid his grocery bill at the end of the month and the kind old grocer, Mr. Reuter, would give the kids a bag of candy. That was the biggest treat of all.

Mr. Johnson was a logger as were his oldest sons, Stanley and Lars, who served in the U.S. Army overseas during World War II.

Mr. Johnson, Anard and Linnea are deceased.

Mrs. Johnson sold the homestead in 1960 to the Ed Reyers Family and moved near the Port Orchard area until June 1970 when she entered the Y-Not Nursing Home at Long Lake at the age of 84.

The remaining children live in and around Port Orchard. Adena (Johnson) Anderson lives at Bethel. Hulda Johnson Kanekkeberg lives right here in Manchester.

## OLAF JOHNSON FAMILY

Olaf and his wife Mary came from Sweden and settled in Polk County, Minnesota in 1884 and came to the Manchester / Waterman area in 1902.

Sixty acres of land in Section 33 (Colby Territory) was purchased from Lewis K. Vaa. A portion of Beaver Creek ran through the Southeast section of the property. The Johnsons brought three children with them from Minnesota and a fourth child, Emma Marie was born at Manchester on December 10, 1903.

Olaf was a "bike riding postman", the first postman in this area, picking up the mail at Colby and delivering to families in Manchester and Waterman.

**Anna Johnson (Gordon), Mrs. Mary Johnson, Emma Johnson (Hatfield), Mrs. John Nordal, Signe Olund (Nilsen), Mrs. Marie Olund, Esther Olund (McElligott) and Olaf Johnson.**

He worked for the County Road Commission and was also a County Assessor. He assisted neighboring settlers to build the first wooden bridge across Beaver Creek, at the point known as "Brooks Gulch", to make the first upper road connection between Manchester and Waterman.

Both Olaf and Mary Johnson were charter members of the First Lutheran Church in Waterman / Manchester, known as the Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Church, which was organized September 30, 1908. The first meetings were held in the schoolhouse on the John Brodine farm.

Mary Johnson was a charter member of the Lutheran Ladies' Aid Society, organized in May 1912 and was elected its first treasurer. There were eight charter members and was the first Church Aid Society organized in the Manchester / Waterman area.

Olaf was vitally interested in school affairs. As a school director in 1912 he helped bring about an election wherein people voted bonds to build a badly needed school. Two acres of land were purchased from Frank Sandell on top of Waterman Hill. A two-room school was built in 1912 and 1913, which functioned until its closure in October 1947. In 1921 the Union High School District was formed in South Kitsap County. The Waterman / Manchester District No. 39 joined the Union. The first unit of the new high school was built and in operation in 1922.

Old Schoolhouse on Brodine Farm—about 1906.

In 1929, with Olaf representing Manchester and Waterman on the high school board, Union High School District had its first addition to the high school building. This required a ten-year bond issue to finance. In 1941, South Kitsap County School Districts reorganized and consolidated and as a result ended the life of the Manchester / Waterman District No. 39 as an independent district.

Olaf, as a member of the building committee, participated in the planning, financing and erection of the first "full time" church in the Waterman area. The Elim Lutheran Church was dedicated on Sunday, September 11, 1932.

Olaf and Mary lived out their lives in Manchester, passing away in December 1942. Olaf died of a heart attack in the Ainsworth Grocery Store Parking lot in Port Orchard while on a shopping trip with daughter, Anna Gordon and granddaughter, Donna. His wife Mary, died quietly in her sleep six days later.

Rural Science Class—Manchester—1921

The descendants of Olaf and Mary Johnson have not strayed far from home. Lorna, James and Roger Starkel live in Southworth; Richard, Donna and Stephen Starkel, Carol Jean, John, Kelley, Scott and Tonya Gabryshack, Bonnie and Mike Pernorid all live in Bremerton; Lillian and Jack Redding live in Kirkland; Sylvia, Don, David and Deanna Olund, Donna and L. Altman with children Edna, Dennis, Larry and Nancy and Tod Stewart with their child Chad all live in Seattle; Bonnie and Danielle Barr live in Port Orchard; Barbara, James and Dionna Brigham live in Shelton.

## THE CLARENCE JONES FAMILY

Clarence and Amie Jones came to Manchester in the 1940's. Clarence had worked for thirty years as credit manager for the Wholesale and Retail Plumbing Company of Seattle. The family came to Manchester in the summer. They enjoyed the ferry rides and liked Manchester so well that they bought property and stayed.



The Dock

Clarence started his own Real Estate and Insurance business, featuring waterfront property in Manchester and along Hood Canal. He had an office in the building next to the Manchester Variety Store for twenty years. This building is now occupied by Fred Ballard Realty.

As a young man he was a great stream fisherman and a fine golfer. He was one of the fifteen persons who started the Rainier Golf Club in Seattle.

Clarence and Amie have one son, Howard. Howard and his wife live in Bellingham with their two children, where Howard is employed by the Georgia Pacific Company.

Clarence passed away February 20, 1967. Amie still lives in downtown Manchester.

## THE FRANK JONES FAMILY

About 1929 or 1930 Frank A. Jones, veteran real estate man of Seattle's firm of Jones and Pyle, bought a small place in Manchester, commuting back and forth to Seattle.

As the depression came on stronger, he gave up the Seattle office and built his own office in Manchester located on the spot where the last room of the building owned by Lee Barto now stands.

The summer of 1931 found Frank and Mary and two of their five children, Ray and Louise living in Manchester. The three older children were grown and remained in Seattle. In 1932, Diane was born.

Louise, Ray and Diane all attended Manchester School and graduated from South Kitsap.

Meanwhile business was picking up and Manchester had its growing pains. Frank Jones and others were pushing hard for a municipal water system as many Manchester wells were drying up. The first meeting was held in Frank's office. The slogan was "Typhous fever can run up hill as well as down hill." However, the first attempts failed. Frank passed away in March of 1942 and did not live to see his dream become a reality. Mary was appointed to the Kitsap County Library Board and she and Hazel Duncan felt that Manchester should have its own library. They were instrumental in bringing this to pass.

Mary married Arthur Sanford and offered the Library its first home in the building which they had built. New owners also gave the library a home. Mrs. Leo Terrell was the first "paid" librarian.

Ray served in the Air Force during World War II. He is now living in Alaska, is married and the father of five children. He is an Airline Dispatcher.

Louise married Julian (Bruno) Pedersen in 1940. They came to live in Manchester shortly after their marriage. They were blessed with three precious sons...Morris, now married, the father of three children and Director of Music in the Central Kitsap School District...Duane, who passed away at the age of four years...and Steven who joined the Air Force in November 1969 and is now stationed in Korea. Louise is librarian at the Manchester Library.

Diane Traweek is widowed and is raising her family in Port Orchard.

Mary is building a lovely home on Hood Canal.

It isn't possible to raise a family and not become involved in PTA, Cub Scouts, 4-H, Library Work and all the things which are for the good of the children and the community in which they are raised. The Pedersens feel that the community of Manchester is indeed fortunate in having Professor and Mrs. Frits Scavenius to teach the love of music to their children.

Louise feels as so many others...that it is indeed hard to write a resume of life in Manchester. The events and memories which come to mind become intertwined with so many other experiences, events and memories that one story involves another and once started it is hard to stop...the memories go on and on.

## THE PERLE JONES FAMILY

### The Perle Jones Family

Perle and Lucia Jones moved to the South Kitsap area in May 1936, with their four children, Edith, George, Gene and Robert. They settled first in Olalla where Richard was born. They moved to Mountain View Road in Waterman in October 1936.

Perle has retired from the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard and still lives on the old home place at Waterman. Lucia passed away in 1965.

**Back Row: Richard, Perle and George Jones Front Row: Gene and Lucia Jones, Edith (Jones) Hillstrom and Robert Jones.**

Edith (Jones) Hillstrom owns and operates the Manchester Variety Store, lives on Daniels Street in Manchester, and is the editor of this book. Her family consists of two children, five grandchildren, a fat chihuahua, and all the kids in Manchester.

George and Nancy Jones work at potato farming in Ashton, Idaho. He has two living children.

Gene (often known as Peewee) and Grace Jones live in Parkwood. They have two sons and one granddaughter. Gene has worked in the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard for twenty-six years, has been very active in Eastern Little League. Grace has been active in politics, having served as President of the League of Women Voters.

Robert and Leslie (Whitcomb) Jones have two daughters. They live on the old home place at Waterman. Leslie was raised in Manchester and owned and operated the Manchester Variety Store for a short time. Bob now works at the Veterans' Home at Retsil. They are active members of Bethel Grace Church.

Richard and Georgia Jones live in Seattle. They have a daughter and a son. Richie works at Ridgeway Lithograph.

Mary (Jahn) Jones, although not born into the Jones family is still very much a part of it, having raised three of the Jones grandchildren. She and daughter Arlene live on Lund Avenue in Port Orchard.

Although not truly a Manchester family, the Jones family are well known in and around Manchester and they have many monents of nostalgia when they remember catching the ferries to Seattle, freezing as they put things in and took things out of cold storage locker, and doing their shopping in the Manchester stores.

The Hulet House, Ole's Garage, The Cold Storage Locker and Grocery.

## LEONA KEMP STORY

Leona Kemp lived in Manchester from 1959 until 1967 in the mobile home at Main and Valley Streets. She will always remember Manchester as a nice friendly town. She still has many friends here.

In 1968 she married H.I. Clay. They have the Lakeside Primrose Gardens on Spencer Lake near Shelton.

## THE HAROLD KINNECOM FAMILY

Captain Harold and Lucille Kinnecom became residents of Manchester in 1966. They moved into the little white cottage on Denniston Lane on July 4th and both have become active residents of Manchester.

Captain Harold Kinnecom was retired from the United States Coast Guard after twenty-eight and a half years of service on July 1, 1955 at New Orleans, Louisiana with an 80 per cent disability.

Captain Kinnecom has four grown children...John of Philadelphia...Robert of Oak Bluffs, Massachusetts, Martha's Vineyard....Helen of Dorchester, Massachusetts....and Everett, recently returned from Saigon and now assigned to Tyndall Air Force Base in Florida.

Captain Kinnecom was Commanding Officer of Coast Guard Cutters Barracuda, Marita, Triton, Hemlock and Walnut. He also commanded shore stations and groups at Newport, Rhode Island, Martha's Vineyard, and many other shore stations.

Lucille, who was born Eva Lucille Houghton in Cherokee, Iowa, has three children....Joyce Ways, who is teaching music at Santa Maria, California and has five children...Marylen Fitzgerald, who has three children and lives at Lemoore Air Force Base where her husband is squadron commander...and Richard W. Powers who has five children and is communications officer at Phu Bai, Vietnam.

**Neighbor Joyce Briggs, Lucille Kinnecom, with sister Dorothy Miller at Manchester Salmon Bake—September 27, 1970.**

Lucille led an active life working for Postal Telegraph in Seattle, as radio and teletype operator for the Army Signal Corps, Alaska Communications, in Seattle and various other places including the Pentagon. While working in Ketchikan, Alaska she met Captain Kinnecom (known to her as Hal) and they were married at Daytona Beach, Florida in 1956. She retired in 1968.

Captain Hal is a member of Martha's Vineyard Eagles Lodge and is at present an officer of Salmon Bay Aerie 2141 in Seattle, the assistant secretary and treasurer of that lodge. He is 74 years young and is still active and enjoys being a part of the Manchester Community.

Lucille also keeps active and enjoys the summer vacations when all the children and grandchildren return to Manchester.

Her mother, Margaret Hoten, and sister, Dorothy Miller, are also Manchester residents. Their travelling days are over. They are all content to live in the quiet community of Manchester with its friendly inhabitants and its beautiful view of the water and the ferry boats and the lights of Seattle across the waters of Puget Sound.

## THE ROSETTA SHAHAN LATHROP STORY

In 1909, Rosetta Shahan lived in Seattle, but made regular visits to Manchester as hostess on the boat bringing prospective land buyers to view lots platted out in Manchester Heights.

When she left the company to marry Harry N. Lathrop of St. Paul, she was given two lots in Manchester Heights.

The Lathrops went to the Philippines where their daughter, Marjorie was born. Their son, Allen was born in Portland, Oregon.

In the meantime, Grandfather Shahan came to Manchester, obtained rough lumber from the Colby Mill and started building a home on Rosetta's lots. He hand-planed all the lumber and built three stone fireplaces in this house. The house is still standing but is now a shambles, falling to pieces, with the path overgrown with nettles and blackberry vines. However, there are still stone fireplaces in other homes in Manchester which were built by Grandfather Shahan.

**Grandfather Shahan**

**Fireplace**

Rosetta, who preferred the name of Nonea, had a dream which she named "Faerie Springs". It never became the success of which she dreamed, though she worked very hard to make it so. Faerie Springs was to have become not just a summer resort, but an assembly of those who could share the natural beauty of the landscape and the spiritual beauty of life, dedicated to the purpose of creative education and health-building.

Both Marjorie and Allen lived in Manchester.

Allen Lathrop lives on Carroway Road.

Marj and her husband Chuck Endsley live on Beach Drive. They have the same postoffice box (Box 3) which Rosetta and Harry Lathrop had when they came to Manchester in 1922. Marj and Chuck had four children and at present count there are eleven grandchildren.

**Faerie Springs Main House**

**Faerie Springs on hill near Manchester Inn**

Grandfather Shahan and Rosetta Lathrop

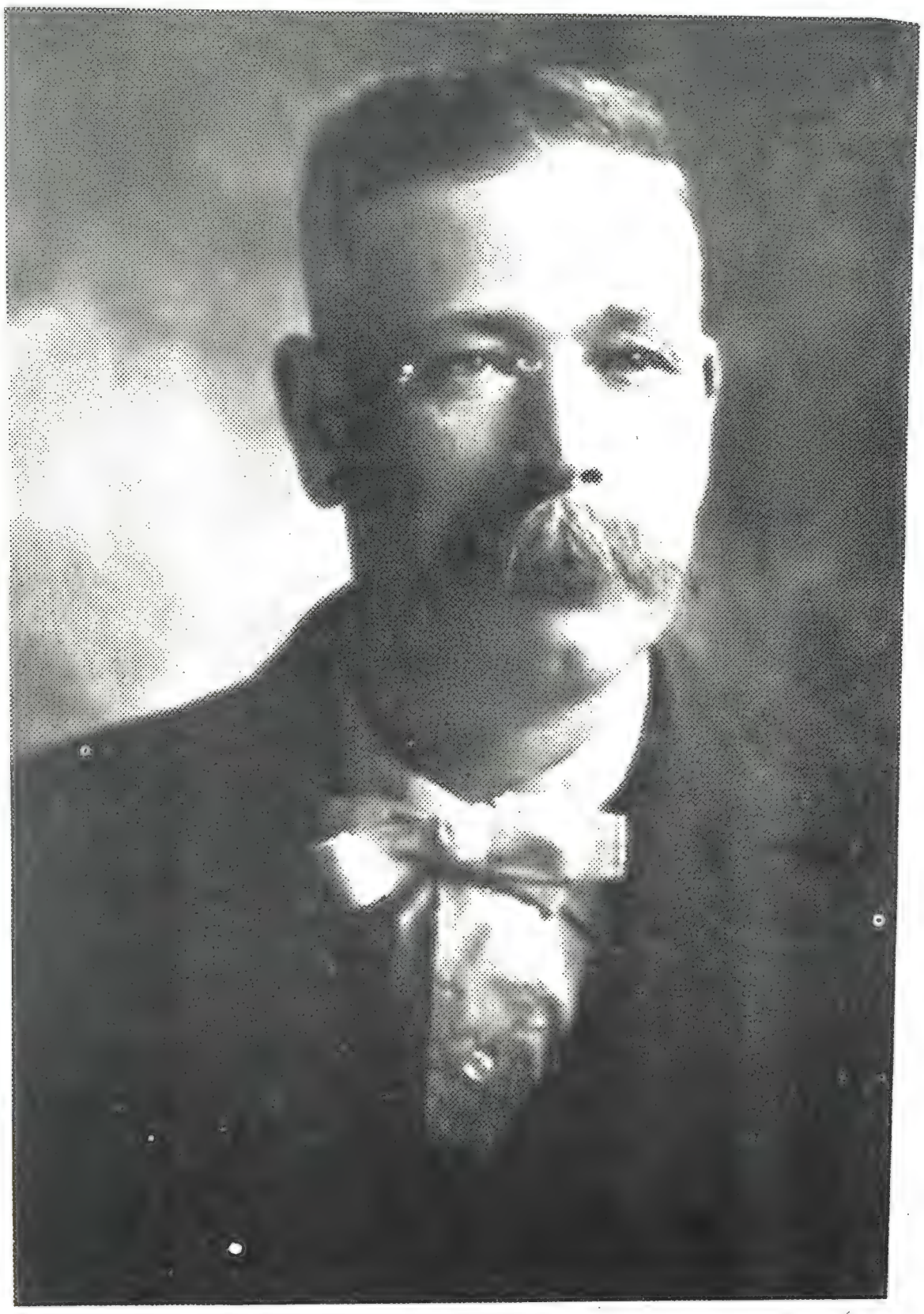
## THE DAVID LEE LAWING FAMILY

David and Wevee Lawing with children Kevin, Karl and Klaline bought a home in Manchester in July 1966. David is a car detailer with West Side Ford in Seattle. On October 16, 1968 they were greatly surprised when Wevee gave birth to twin boys, Kurt and Keith, which now makes them five loving children.

They are glad to be living in Manchester as they feel it is the best place in the state to raise children. They have a wonderful view of Seattle. Manchestcr is a very quiet place and the people in it are the best in the west.

## THE EDWARD MARTIN FAMILY

Edward and Belle Martin and four of their children (Eva, Howard and Jessie Maupin and Lenore Martin) came to Manchester in 1908. They lived in the house now known as the Schmitt House.



**Edward Martin**

Belle Martin

Edward Martin, along with George H. Green, Letha Walters and Bert Rogers formed the Manchester Investment Company and entered into a contract with Sam and Jennie Denniston to sell lots in Manchester.

They also platted and sold lots in Manchester Heights.

Their oldest daughter, Lula Rogers and her husband, Bert came to Manchester in about 1911 and bought the Walters House, which had been moved up to the corner of Spring and Spruce. This house was destroyed by fire in 1970.

Eva Maupin Wood had two children. Her daughter, Frieda Hansen lives on Beaver Creek Road.

Howard Maupin is survived by four children.

Jessie Maupin McGrew is now widowed and lives in Wapato. She has four children, one of whom is William Johnson who lives on Beaver Creek Road.

Lenore Martin McBeth and her husband, Archie live right here in Manchester on Second Avenue and are proud to be among the pioneers of this area.

Bert and Lula Rogers at the Walters House

Bert and Lula Rogers

## THE ARCHIE McBETH FAMILY

Archie was born and raised in Seattle until 1916 when he left to join the regular army in World War I. He served overseas in Germany and France.

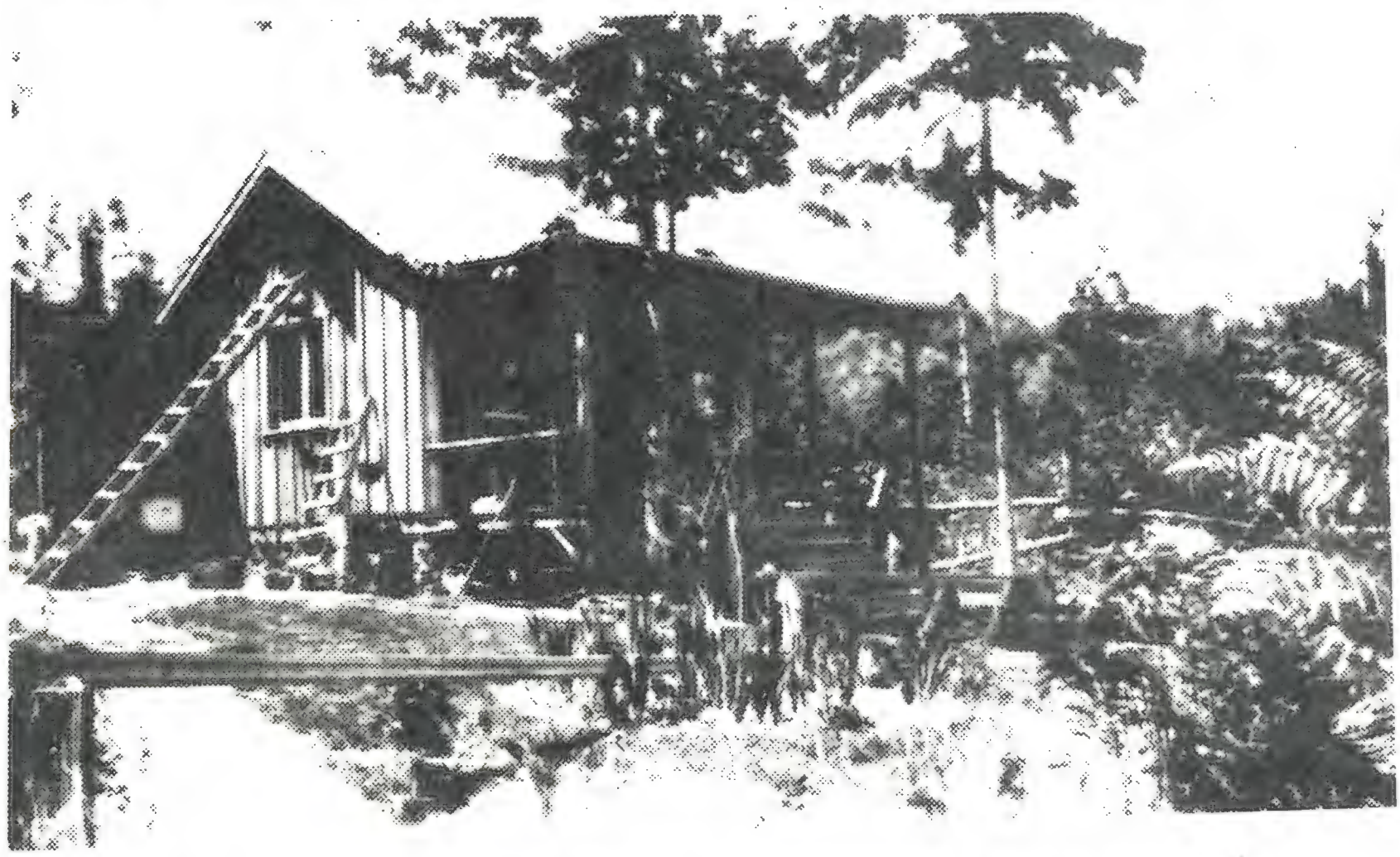
Archie's father, John A. McBeth was a pioneer of Seattle, having arrived there before the Seattle fire. His mother was a native of LaGrande, Oregon. She died when she was a young woman.

In 1926, Archie came to Manchester and bought land on Alaska Street. He brought his father to live with him until his death at the age of 86.

Archie opened the first and only sign shop in Manchester. It was called The Manchester Sign Shop and was located in the basement of the house now occupied by the Hulet Family. He kept very busy working as a slab sawyer in the Colby Mill, painting cabins, houses and signs at Long Lake as well as in and around Manchester.

In later years, he worked as a Special Deputy on the Manchester Patrol and is still on hand whenever a temporary duty officer is needed.

Archie and his wife, Lenore live on Second Avenue here in Manchester.



**Eva Wood's House Now remodeled and owned by Lenore and Archie McBeth**

## THE WILEY McFALL STORY

Wiley and Ethel McFall have lived in the State of Washington most of their lives. Wiley was a logger for many years. They moved to Bremerton in December 1950 and he went to work for the government at N.A.D. and Bangor until his retirement in 1959.

Wiley's hobbies are hunting and fishing; Ethel's are needlework and reading.

The McFalls have three children...Mr. and Mrs. A.L. McFall and their two sons, Ron in Seattle and Steve at the family home in Bremerton...Mrs. Vera Smith in Seattle has three sons, Greg serving in the USMC and Terry in the Navy and Larry at home...A son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. William Underwood and their son Jeff and daughter Kelley live in Fremont, California.

The McFalls moved to Manchester in 1964. They enjoy living in this community with its friendly people and the beautiful view of the water, mountains and islands.

Ethel and Wiley McFall

## DOROTHY JOAN MILLER STORY

Dorothy calls Manchester her home even if she can only spend her weekends here. She is a nurse at Virginia Mason Hospital in Seattle and will retire next year. She lives near the hospital with sister, Mrs. Dale Wallace.

When in Manchester, Dorothy lives with her mother, Margaret Hoten, and close by is sister Lucille Kinnecom.

A brother, working for Lockheed and living in Sunnyvale, California spends each summer in Manchester and is thinking about a permanent home upon retirement.

Dorothy hails from Cherokee, Iowa and took her nurses training in Sioux City and worked as a nurse in Duluth, Minnesota. She moved to Los Angeles where she met and Married Ely Miller, a former Duluth man. They spent part of their lives in Duluth, part in Los Angeles and Seattle. Ely worked at carving little animals of wood for the national parks. During the war he worked on intricate wood paneling at Boeings and for a time at Douglas Aircraft in Los Angeles area. After Ely's death in Duluth, Dorothy returned to Seattle to work at her profession seventeen years at King County Harborview Hospital. Two years ago she was transfered to Virginia Mason. She expects to retire soon and return to Manchester as a full-time resident.

## THE CHARLES MONK STORY

Charles and Margaret Monk and daughter Edith May bought twenty acres on what is now the corner of Beach Drive and Wautauga Roads about 1898. They were farmers.

Charles worked on the Puget Sound steamers for several years.

The family were charter members of the Manchester Community Church. May (Monk) Struckman is the last living charter member of that church.

May married Charles F. Struckman in June 1928 and has resided in Portland, Oregon ever since. She taught school there for many years. She still owns ten acres of the original farm.

## THE MALVIN MYHRE STORY

Malvin and Hattie Myhre arrived in Manchester as newlyweds in 1922. They fell in love with Manchester at first sight.

The first home they lived in was a green house on the road South of Manchester beside a bridge that used to cross the ravine.

Marvel was born in 1924. She started first grade on top of the hill in the little white schoolhouse.

Harold was born in 1926 in the house on Manchester's busiest corner across the road from Mrs. Rogers' Bide-A-Wee Coffee Shop.

Most of the young people that grew up at Manchester have many fond memories of the good times they enjoyed.

Hattie (Myhre) Bucklew now lives in Seattle. They try to go back every Fourth of July and celebrate the holiday with the Daniels Family.

**Marvel Myhre (Stewart) and Harold Myhre dressed up to go to Sunday School at the little church on top of the hill.**

## OLAF NELSON FAMILY

The Nelsons owned and operated the first garage in Manchester. Olaf raised two children...Marshall and Eunice.

Olaf and Arnold Nelson at first garage

## NELLIE NEWHOUSE STORY

In 1940, the Modern Cleaners started operating in Port Orchard. Mr. and Mrs. Newhouse were the owners. The office was located in the same block as the Parks Furniture Store. Mr. Newhouse did all the cleaning and spotting.

In 1943, the Modern Cleaners built and opened a new dry-cleaning plant in Manchester. Leonard Costello went to work there doing the cleaning and spotting.

Two weeks after Leonard started to work, Mr. Newhouse passed away. It seemed too big of a chore for Mrs. Newhouse to operate, so in 1944, she sold the business to Mr. and Mrs. S. Hill of Bremerton, with a man to deliver to dry cleaning, George Fry to do pressing and spotting, Betty did finishing and repairing. Mr. Hill's son-in-law, Wally Wallace did the dry-cleaning and spotting.

They operated the Modern Cleaners until Mr. Hill had a stroke, when the business was sold.

This building was purchased by Lawrence Carr and for a period of time a discount business called "The Miracle Mart" occupied this building.

The building has recently been purchased by Bob Fox.

Nellie Newhouse and Leonard Costello—Modern Cleaners

Mrs. Hill at Modern Cleaners in Manchester

## THE NITTEBERG STORY

Dr. Albin and Grace Nitteberg and their two children, Robert and Virginia came to Manchester for Robert's health.

Dr. Harry Gosnell who had opened an office in Manchester had continued a friendship with Albin since high school days. When it seemed better for Bobby's asthmatic condition to get out of the city, Dr. Harry found an opportunity for the Nittebergs to purchase two lots from the Daniels Family. The house, which is on Daniels Street not far from the waterfront was built by Tommy Wood.

Dr. Albin continued to commute to Seattle except for a short time during World War II when he had an office in Bremerton.

Grace operated a drugstore in Manchester and then opened a Beauty Shoppe.

Dr. Albin passed away in 1967. Grace still lives in her home at Manchester and is active in club work and community affairs.

Robert was killed in a car accident in 1952 at Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania while in the service.

Virginia married Howard Kinney of Waterman. They now live in Seattle where Howard is an architect and Virginia works part-time as a dental hygenist. They have two children, Jill and Jay, who are frequent visitors in Manchester.

Mr. and Mrs. Goodrich, Albin and Grace Nitteberg, Amie and Clarence Jones, and Mrs. Goodrich's mother, Emmy.

## PETER NOBLE FAMILY

Peter and Susie Noble, with sons Dean and Jerry came to Manchester in 1941 to visit Susie's mother, Mrs. William Stempel of Port Orchard. They rented a barber shop in the Locker Building owned by Fred Ballard.

They operated the business for almost ten years.

Dean and his family have recently moved back to Manchester and bought a home on Manchester Beach.

Jerry is with the Oakland Police Department.

Michael is living with Pete and Susie in Auburn, California.

The Nobles—1943

## THE NUNGESSER FAMILY

The Nungessers weren't here in 1871 (although their children put them in the "Olden Days" category), but they are mighty glad to be here in 1971.

Manchester has become "home" to them since 1967. They are a naval family, so to be able to say that they have a home is saying a lot.

They haven't been here all the time since '67 due to transfers, but like boomerangs, they always return.

They number five people, two cats and a guinea pig. Their female cat has helped Manchester's cat population considerably.

The leader of the pack is Ken, who has served aboard the U.S. Navy's largest ship, "The Enterprise" for seven years. After that long on one ship, he should at least own stock in one small porthole. In ONLY four years, he'll be able to retire at the young age of 28—feeling 88!

Linda is twenty-nine. Her children may tell you different, but she reached that age and she is determined to keep it. She raises mostly weeds in her yard. They seem to be the only thing besides the kids that she can get to grow.

Kathy will be twelve in July 1971. She's a big help around the house when Linda is able to get her to stay home.

Karl is ten. He takes over as man of the house when his father is gone. He does a great job of it.

Wendy is three (and Linda thought the two's were terrible), and with her build, the Nungessers think they are raising a football player.

They've all led somewhat of a gypsy life, and it's very good to grow some roots. And what better place to grow them (along with the weeds) than in a town where the people are as warm-hearted and helpful as they are in Manchester. The Nungessers say, "HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MANCHESTER!!"

## THE CHRISTEN SIMONSEN OBERG STORY

Morris and Christen Simonson moved to Manchester in April 1918. They bought a farm on North Alaska Street. In 1926, Morris passed away.

Later, Christen married John Oberg. They continued living on the farm raising chickens and cows.

They contributed money to have a road built, which is now Alaska Street and to have electricity brought into their home. This also helped to bring more people into the area.

The Obergs were the first to have a telephone in their home on Manchester Heights.

John Oberg made his living in construction work, both here in this vicinity and also in the surrounding states. He passed away in 1969.

Christen Oberg is now making her home in Port Orchard. She has enjoyed her fifty-three years in Kitsap County.

**John and Christen Oberg**

## OLAF AND JEAN OLSON STORY

Olaf and Jean Olson arrived in Manchester in October 1941. Olaf was employed at the Navy Yard and Jean at the Manchester Postoffice. A daughter Kristie was born June 18, 1950.

Olaf retired in 1962 and died in March 1969.

Upon the retirement of Postmaster M. Ellen Randall, the position of Acting Postmaster was given to Jean and she was confirmed in April 1963.

Jean continued to hold the position of Postmaster. Daughter Kristie is a Senior at C.W.S.C. in Ellensburg.

## THE CARL EDWARD OLUND FAMILY

Ed Olund and Vickey Forsmark met the day they landed in Waterman in 1911.

They were married in 1925 by Pastor Otto R. Karlstrom from Seattle in Vickey's family home.

Ed started as apprentice machinist in the Shipyard. When work was low, he worked for A&P Cannery at Union Bay, Alaska, where he was foreman.

They cleared and built their own home, where Jerry and Bev Phipps now live.

When Vickey's parents passed away in 1930 and 1931, they moved into the old Forsmark family home, which Ed remodeled. It is a satisfaction and a joy to this very day.

Their daughter, Edith was born in 1933, went to school in Manchester and graduated from South Kitsap in 1951. She went to Pacific Lutheran College and Emmanuel Hospital, completed her nurses training and worked in the Veteran's Army Hospital in Seattle, where she met her husband, Dr. D.E. Strandness and married him in 1957. They have four children...Erik, Tracy, Jill and Sandra. They live in Bellevue.

Ed entered the Shipyard again during World War II days, was there for twenty-six years. He passed away in 1959.

Vickey still lives in the family home, with Ed's sister, Edith Olund. After Edith's parents passed away, she sold the farm in Waterman and the two sisters-in-law have been living together since that time.

They have many lovely memories of the friends who have come and gone and the happy times they shared. It has made their lives rich. Vickey has not traveled far from Manchester since she arrived here from Kiruna, Sweden so many years ago.

**Vickey, Edith and Ed Olund**

## THE CHARLES OLUND FAMILY

Charles and Marie Olund came to Manchester in 1905 with their daughter, Signe, from Seattle. They moved into the homestead home of E.A. Huntley, which was located a mile from Manchester Beach. At that time there was no road into Manchester, no store or dock. All groceries, feed and supplies had to be brought from Colby by rural route. Later they bought ten acres from the Huntley homestead on which they built their new home. Here a daughter Esther and a son Sigward was born.

The children all attended Manchester Grade School for eight years. Signe started first grade the year the school opened in Manchester. It was in the old log schoolhouse built by Mr. Stoney.

In 1934, the Olunds sold their ranch home and bought a home near the Manchester waterfront, where they lived until they passed away in 1956 and 1957. At that time Manchester had ferry service into Seattle and was quite a business center with grocery stores, lockers, meat market, variety store and other businesses.

Their son Sigward bought property next to his parents on which he built his home and still resides with his family.

Signe, now Mrs. Nathan Nilsen lives in Waterman. Two of the Nilsen children also reside in the area (Mrs. Sonia Blanchard of Colby and Nathan Nilsen, Jr. of Colchester). Esther, now Mrs. E. McElligott lives in Anchorage, Alaska.

Marie and Charles Olund, Golden Wedding Day—June 24, 1949

## THE SIGWARD OLUND FAMILY

Sigward Olund was born and raised and still lives in Manchester. He married the former Ethel Carlson, whose grandfather, D.F. Carlson homesteaded in Olalla in 1881.

Gig and Ethel built their home on Main Street in 1936. They have three children.

Donald Olund married Sylvia Rogers. Her great-grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Olaf Johnson came to Manchester in 1902. They live in Seattle and have two children, David and Deanna.

Roy Olund is married to Linda Green. They also live in Seattle, but travel extensively in their work with Oceanography for the University of Washington.

Kathy Olund has finished her third year at the Prairie Bible Institute in Three Hills, Alberta, Canada.

The Olunds were active in the Scouts, the M.C.A. and also served on the Port Commission.

## THE GERALD PHIPPS FAMILY

Beverlee Bowman Phipps remembers coming to Manchester on April 20, 1943. It was her sixth birthday. She remembers The Sound being full of Naval Ships and the sky thick with blimps as a defense measure. She also remembers the sunny summer day when they heard the war was over. Cars honked their horns, people swarmed out of houses and the whistle at the Fuel Depot began to blow.

Jerry and Bev moved into their home in Manchester in 1959 when they found a house that felt like home.

They live in one of the older homes in Manchester. It evolved from a two-room house built by Ed and Vickey Olund in 1927.

Charles Olund (father of Sig Olund, and no relation to Ed or Vickey) bought the house in 1934 and made further additions through the years.

Evidence of Grandpa Olund's love for wood-working is still very visible.

Jerry is a foreman at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard. He works with guidance systems on missiles.

Bev has been a member of the Manchester Community Church since 1961 and they are raising their two daughters, Terre and Tami to be Christians also.

Tami, Jerry, Terre and Beverlee Phipps

View of the ships off Manchester—World War II

## THE CLARA PRATT FAMILY

Tom, Elsie, Louise, Clara Pratt, Clara Petterson, Edna and Ralph Pratt.

The Pratt Family was very hard up in 1918, Mr. Pratt being away from home and out of work. Clara heard of a log house in Manchester through a dear old Irish lady by the name of Mrs. Ward, who owned a small peice of property and a tiny cabin on California Street. Mrs. Ward, who was an insurance agent for Northern Life Insurance Company and her husband used to come to Manchester to relax in the woodsy area. They called their little cabin a "little cabin in heaven".

Clara was never one to be afraid of work, nor would she put up with dirt or filth. The log house was rented at first, then later it was purchased from people by the name of McCabe. It was very run-down with broken windows and much accumulation of dirt and old papers, magazines and just plain junk. For days, they cleaned - burning old papers and junk in the back yard in small quantities, so as not to have a fire; the floors were scrubbed with strong lye water; and the windows were patched with wrapping paper pasted on with paste made from flour and water. It was soon clean and cosy and the Pratt family were very happy.

The teacher at the school that year was a Miss Kendall. The teacher the next year was Clara M. Petterson, with whom the Pratt Family kept in contact until her death several years ago.

About the end of summer of 1919, Grandfather, Peter Leduc came to live with the Pratts and stayed on after the family moved to Seattle in the summer of 1920. He passed away about 1932.

Louise is now Mrs. Ernest Firth of Marysville; Thomas lives in Seattle; Elsie is Mrs. Albert A. Noon of Kirkland; Ralph lives in Seattle; Edna is Mrs. James C. Otto of Seattle.

(The little log house in which they lived is the one which housed Manchester's first school in 1908.)

## THE JAYVANIS RUSSELL FAMILY

Jay and Beverly Russell bought their home on Puget Drive in 1964. Jay is training to be an A&P Mechanic.

They have two children, Leilani and Stuart.

They have not lived in Manchester very long, and although they are on the outskirts of town, they have made a lot of friends in Manchester because of caring for the Luxton boys in their home and through their attendance and work with the South Park Assembly of God Church.

Beverly, Leilani, Stuart and Jay Russell

## THE SCAVENIUS FAMILY

Surely, Manchester has never had a pair of more ardent devotees than the Professor and his wife, meaning Professor Frits and Cara Scavenius. Virtually their life as man and wife has been spent here, they having moved to Manchester from Seattle on August 17th, 1932, the day before their First Anniversary.

It almost seems as though they were destined to make Manchester their home. In the years before their marriage when Mr. Scavenius was organist and choir master of one of the downtown Seattle churches, the choir would come to the old hotel on the beach for annual summer picnics.

**The old hotel on the beach**

And Cara had been through this area as a very young girl when she and her family went on a camping trip from Seattle, via Olympia, Port Orchard, Hood Canal, etc. to Mora out on the ocean beach. Cara's father in his early years homesteaded the Canal in the Tahuya area down by the Oak Patch.

Mr. and Mrs. Scavenius have watched many changes in Manchester...as Mr. Scavenius so aptly puts it.."When we first came here there were lots of trees and only a few houses...now there are lots of houses and only a few trees."

When they first came to Manchester they rented the small house from Mr. and Mrs. John Pulliam which was to be the nucleus of the larger home they live in at the present time, and which has indeed become "Home". They rented this little cottage used then only as a summer and beach cottage rented by the week to vacationers, and then closed up for the winter, but they wanted to try a season around to "see if we like it"...and in their words, "We liked it so much we just packed bag and baggage and never did go back."

In the intervening years they have bought the property, with its 125 feet of waterfront, enlarged the house from the three room 20x20 cottage to their present home of 55x25 with a second floor on the back part of the house. The large building that at one time was a restaurant, on the corner of their property next to the dock they used for their studios, as teachers of piano.

Mr. Scavenius is of English birth and Danish and English parentage...reared

and educated in England, with his life as a concert pianist and teacher beginning in London. To quote from one of his brochures: "Frits Scavenius, the Danish-English pianist who had the honor to receive a royal command to play before Their Majesties, King Edward and Queen Alexandra of England. After playing the Queen sent for him to be presented to her. Later he gave a number of recitals under the patranage of Queen Alexandra. Since that time he has been concertizing and teaching principally in Europe and America".

His press notices were so numerous that they cannot be contained herein.

At the time that Mr. Scavenius was scheduled for a performance before the Czar and Czarina of Russia the war broke out in Europe in August of 1914, and then he came to America, and had many experiences concertizing extensively. In 1917 he came to Seattle where he taught piano.

The following year, Cara Gilbert came to him to continue her study of piano. She studied with him for some years and concertized to quite an extent through Oregon and Washington and "then they were married."

Their lives in Manchester through the changing years have brought many rich experiences through their great loves of music and nature. There have been many pupils in this area who have "made good" through their music...to name some of them...Bobby Nitteberg, who achieved excellent success and was well on his way to greater accomplishments when his life was so tragically cut short...Carol Wolf of Waterman who made an outstanding success in the East...Arlene Hinderlie, who through her music was chosen Seafair Queen of Seattle in 1963...Morris Pedersen and Donn Nelson achieving successes in the field of teaching, as has Marilyn Tripp...David Kimble with his instrumental work in the Air Force Band...Robert Sather with teaching piano and organ and in band work...etc., etc....

Mr. and Mrs. Scavenius have loved their garden so much it has become a part of their lives and their love of all nature has found rich fulfiilment in Manchester. One of their prides is the magnificent fir tree, probably a hundred feet tall now, but which was on their Christmas dinner table in a flower pot once. One of their favorite conversation pieces are the two elm trees which grew to a good size from two posts cut off an elm to use for chicken fence posts. Their love of living things has brought them so much of happiness from their first little dog, "Laddie". "His Master's Voice" he was called because he was so much like the trademark of the Victor Records. Then after he died there were the six "little girls"..Suzie, the Chihuahua, "Sistie"..."Goldie", a golden retriever, and "Cindy", a golden Cocker, both rescued from abandonment..."Rosa", the fox terrier, registered under the name of "Purple Ribbon Reedcroft Vansca Rosa of Manchester", and then the last little doggie...the sweet "Penny". And then the three boy dogs..."Duffy", the black Cocker, "The Young Marquis", a black Labrador, and the old "Prince", the Border Collie who had been Bill Glanvilles' dog. Mr. and Mrs. Scavenius gave him a home when Mr. Glanville died and he lived to be twenty years old. All the doggies...joys and heartbreaks every one.

The joys and contentment of Manchester living are very aptly summed up by Mr. Scavenius in these words, when asked about going on a vacation..."Why should we go on a vacation? We have the mountains before us, Mt. Baker to the left, Mr. Rainier to the right, the sea and the islands in front of us, the beach, the garden, the trees...what more can we want?"

Believing unreservedly in the educational, cultural, and moral value of their teaching, the lives of Mr. and Mrs. Scavenius have been lives of devotion to their work with young people in the study of music, and this is their prayer:

Give us the power to inspire - give us the inspiration to impart - Give us the power to inspire
To zeal, to earnestness, to eagerness, to interest,
To ambition, to determination, to sincerity of purpose
Give us the power to inspire
To a desire for learning, a desire for study,
A desire for knowledge, a desire for wisdom,
A desire to excel, a desire for accomplishment,
A desire for achievement, a desire for attainment,
A desire for beauty, a desire for all that is good,
And that is true, all that is worth.
Give us wisdom, and patience, and kindness and understanding.
Give us the power to inspire - give us inspiration to impart.

**Cara and Frits Scavenius**

## THE NICHOLAS SCHMITT STORY

The Schmitt Family came to Manchester in the summer of 1925. Mr. Nicholas Schmitt was a prominent Seattle attorney. Mr. Schmitt was active in forming a Community Club and was one of the promoters of the Community Hall at Manchester. He was instrumental in bringing the first direct ferry service from Alki Point to Manchester. His wife and family spent their summers enjoying the woods and the beach. There were many summer residents and the teen-agers had wonderful times, swimming at the dock, rowing to Blake Island and having community bonfires.

Mr. and Mrs. Schmitt are now deceased. Their former home is now owned by their daughter, Mrs. Russell E. Winslow of Seattle, who along with her three sons still enjoy the beauty and serenity they find at their home in Manchester.

**Manchester Inn, Schmitt House, Boat House, The Old Red Barn, The Clara Denniston House, The Boardwalk.**

**Manchester Inn and The Schmitt House**

## THE PAUL SHAFER FAMILY

The Shafers make their home on the waterfront at Manchester. With a portion of Puget Sound as their front yard, they have become experienced water bird watchers. A small stream of fresh water trickling down the hill attracts many a thirsty bird.

Black mud hens (Coots), grebe, gulls, killdeer, heron, geese, brant, etc. all receive their share of attention from Paul and Gladys Shafer and their neighbors. But it is the mallards who have really become a part of the community. These ducks have learned that the Manchester beach dwellers are kind-hearted people who are more than willing to pamper them with handouts. Several dozen mallards make the rounds receiving a bit of bread here, some leftover waffles there, a few table scraps, stale cake, etc. They have learned that the Shafers keep a supply of cracked corn and always include them when making the rounds.

In return, the Shafers and their neighbors are entertained by watching the waterfowl, learning their habits and enjoying the visits of the mallards. And as a special bonus, they rid the gardens of the troublesome slugs which plague so many of us and destroy our gardens.

## THE CLYDE SHELTON FAMILY

Clyde and Alice Shelton sold their insurance business and Lake Washington waterfront home and moved from Bellevue to Cornell Road in Harper, another waterfront home.

After eight years, they bought the Timm's home in Manchester, February 1, 1970. Thus they exchanged waterfront for magnificent view.

They like Manchester very much. They appreciate having the stores, postoffice, library and gas station within walking distance. They enjoy the activities around the Navy dock, which they can watch from their home.

Alice is an artist, but is unproductive at present due to the fact that Clyde is not well.

They are happy to have friendly neighbors and are fast becoming acquainted in the community.

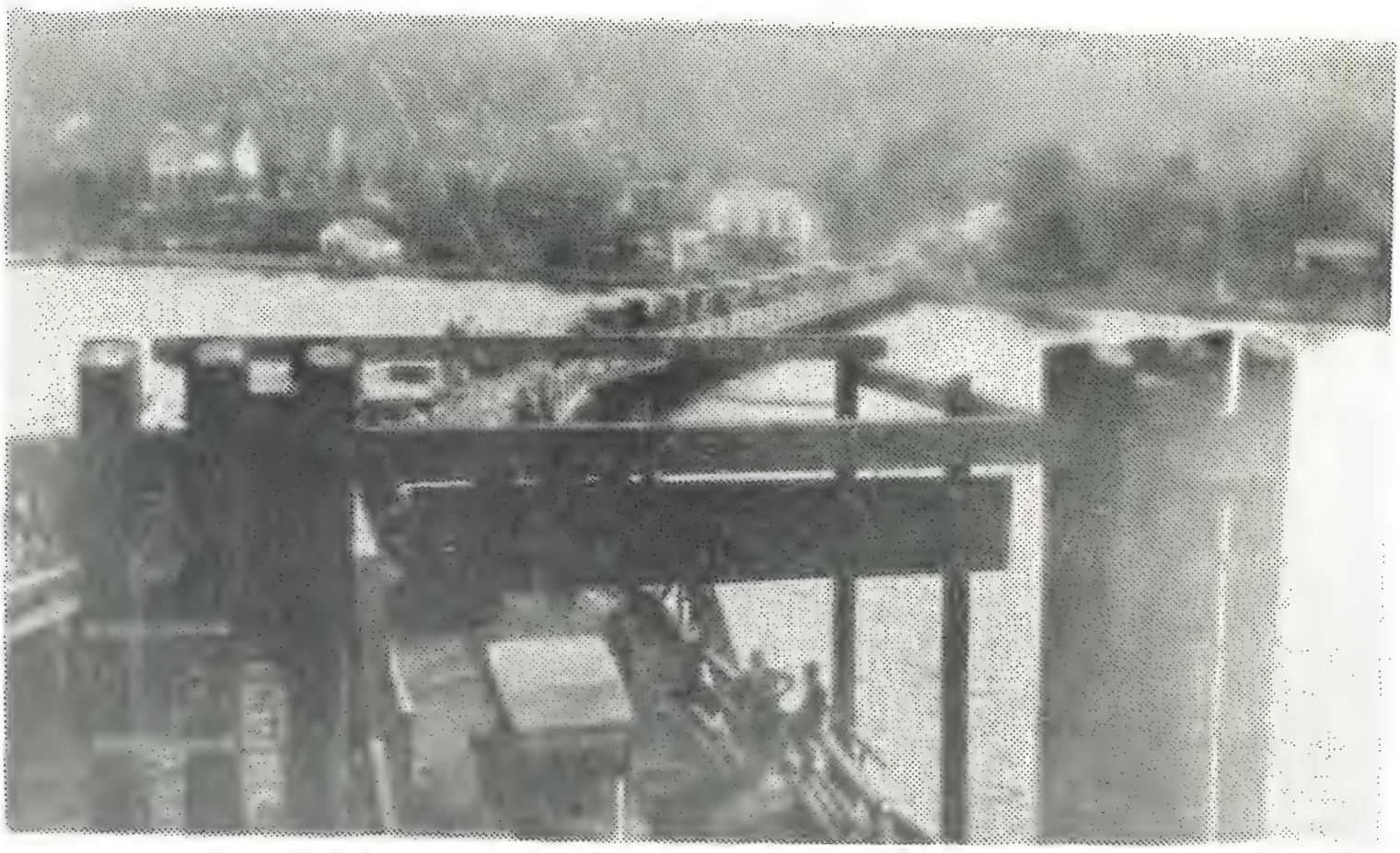
## THE SIGURDSSON FAMILY

Ragnhildur and Johannes Sigurdsson came from Iceland in 1900. They had two daughters. Irene was only a few months old when they came to Duluth, Minnesota where Freda was born. They moved, along with other relatives, to Nelson and Vancouver, B.C., to Ballard and finally to Clam Bay in Manchester, where other Icelanders settled with them about 1905.

Irene, Ragnhildur, Johannes and Freda Sigurdsson

They started school September 28, 1908 in a large log house converted into a school house. Mrs. B.M. MacDiarmid was the first teacher, then Harriet Mendenhall, then Fannie E. Giles, who was there for about ten years. She was a wonderful and dedicated teacher, taught all grades, conducted plays and all holiday programs, sponsored WCTU speech contests, taught sewing and craftwork. They went to Port Orchard, the county seat, to take their Common School State Examinations.

They had no car, but they had a row boat and did a lot of rowing, sometimes around the point to Manchester. They walked to Waterman to attend dances, would meet the Seattle Ferry at Manchester and get their mail at Denniston's Store. They spent many evenings around the bonfires in front of the Daniels' home on the beach.



**Denniston's Store at end of Manchester Ferry dock**

The small community church was up country from Manchester in the same area as the school. Mr. Howard White was the Superintendent, his wife the Sunday School teacher and Grandma was the organist. Epworth League was every Sunday evening, led by the young folks.

Mr. Sigurdsson worked in the Navy Yard and traveled by boat. In 1919 they moved to Seattle. Mr. Sigurdsson passed away in April 1920 and Mrs. Sigurdsson in April 1934. Irene went to Queen Anne High School and Success Business College. Freda graduated from Queen Anne High School.

Irene married Walter S. Thompson July 1, 1931 and they have two daughters and two sons; Betty Jane, Phyllis Mae, Walter Sumner, Jr., and Donald Allan. They have eleven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Walter passed away July 15, 1968 and Irene lives on the Thompson family farm near Elma, Washington. Her son, Donald is the third generation to run their dairy farm.

Freda is now Mrs. Elwood Stanton and lives in Seattle. They have two children, Beverly and Robert. Both are married and live in Seattle. Beverly has three sons and one daughter. Robert had three daughters and one son; one daughter passed away in April 1968.

Irene and Freda are both frequent visitors to Manchester. They enjoy reminiscing with their old friends who still live here.

Elwood and Freda (Sigurdsson) Stanton

## THE EARL SPENCER FAMILY

Mabel G. Jones arrived in Colby, as a young girl in 1888 or 1889. She was the step-daughter of Thomas Holcomb who homesteaded back of Colby-Manchester.

Mabel married Earl Spencer. Earl was with the Seattle Fire Department so he was seldom able to come to Manchester.

Bernice Spencer lived in Manchester in the fall of 1925 until March of 1926. She lived with her great aunt, Lydia Martha Sims. She lived in the little house at Little Clam Bay. Mabel owned the property from 1912 'til the 30's. Bernice spent her summers there for many years. Grandmother Clara Holcomb was living at Retsil Veterans' Home.

Standing—Hugh Spencer and Grandma Clara Holcomb. Seated—Lydia (Great Aunt Matt) Sims and Bernice Spencer—About 1914.

Hugh Spencer was drowned in September 1926. Earl Spencer passed away in July 1938.

Bernice (Spencer) Stokke moved from Seattle in 1934, lived in Sacramento until 1941 when she moved to Petersburg, Alaska where she still lives. She is the last of the Spencers.

Bernice had two half-brothers. Their father, Ed Huntley, homesteaded in Manchester in the early 1900's.

Howard Huntley was in the merchant marine all his life and passed away in September 1966. His widow Enid died in February 1970.

Charles Huntley lived in Manchester many years and used to work for Puget Sound Power and Light in Seattle. He passed away in January 1964. His widow, Leona, has re-married and lives in Lake Havasu City, Arizona.

Back Row: Hugh Spencer. Middle: Mrs. Thos. Holcomb, Mrs. Mabel Spencer, Thomas Holcomb holding Lucille, 2 unidentified, Lydia Sims. Front: Bernice Spencer on her 6th birthday and Mrs. Clara Holcomb—August 17, 1915.

## THE EVERETTE STRODE FAMILY

Everette, Susanna and Scott Strode came to Washington in April 1944. Five families from their home town had signed up to come out and work in the Navy Yard, but only the Strodes came.

Everette was to work for "the duration and six months". It turned out to be a long six months.

In the summer of 1948 they moved to a home on Spring Street in Manchester. They added to the house and to the family. Jim was born in 1950.

Everette works for Rice Electric in Port Orchard and Susanna is a kindergarten teacher at Orchard Heights.

Scott and his wife Joanna live in Bloomington, Indiana. They have three children...Kyle, Susanna and Paul.

Jim and his wife Karin live at South Colby. They have two children..Karissa and Stacie.

**The Strode Family have always been active in community affairs. Above you see Everette Strode helping with the cooking at the Manchester Salmon Bake which was held on September 27, 1970.**

## THE BEN SWANSON FAMILY

Ben and Nettie Swanson came to Manchester in November 1929.

They had purchased their home from Al Reuter on March 17th and commuted from Seattle while building the fireplace.

The Swansons raised the flat roof and added on extra rooms.

Ben and Nettie had one daughter. She caught pneumonia and died while she was attending the University of Washington.

Ben passed away in 1970. Nettie still lives in Manchester and has many memories of the early days of Manchester and its struggle to survive.

The original house when bought in 1929

## THE ERNEST TODD FAMILY

Georgene Essendrup and Ernest Todd were married in 1937 and purchased their present home in Manchester in 1938.

They have two daughters, Connie and Sherie, and six grandsons.

They operated Todd's Cafe for seven years starting in 1954. They purchased the building in 1960. They still own the building and are presently leasing it to Rennie Adams who operates Todd's Cafe and to Dee Turner who operates the Capitol Tavern.

Georgene had a dream of beautifying the scenic little town of Manchester. With the support of the Manchester Citizens, State and County Officials, Boy Scouts, Mission Creek Boys and merchants from Manchester, Port Orchard and various clubs in the surrounding area, she worked toward making this dream come true.

Mr. Greseth of the Port Orchard Nursery drew plans for planting. Two years of planning, planting and escavating went into the project. In about 1960, Manchester's Miracle Mile came into being.

Ernie and Georgene Todd

Working on The Miracle Mile

## THE ROSEMARIE TOWNS STORY

Rosemarie had never been to Kitsap County before being hired by the Port Orchard Independent to work with the advertising on the paper.

She found a place to rent on "No Name" street in Manchester and brought her two daughters Vicki and Terri to join her.

Rosemarie Towns, with daughters Terri and Vicki

She has found Manchester to be a very friendly place and has made quite
few friends, although she has lived here only since July 1970. However, sh
heard recently that Manchester-ites have a "special look" and natives ca
easily be told from strangers. She is still thinking it over. So if you se
Rosemarie sizing you up, you'll know she's debating on whether she wants t
remain in Manchester long enough to develop that special look.

## THE JESSE TYRE FAMILY

Jesse and Margaret Tyre lived in Manchester in 1954 and 1955. Jesse was stationed at the fire fighting school and when it closed down, they moved away.

They lived first in a house near the dock and later moved up the hill across from the Gordon Dundas Family.

Only two of their four children lived in Manchester.

Janet, who now lives in Seattle is married and has a son.

Arvid Nielsen, who spent seven years in the Navy, is now attending college in Mississippi. He is married and has two daughters.

Margaret is living in Seattle and has eleven grandchildren.

Manchester Dock

## THE GLEN VAN CLEEF FAMILY

Glen Van Cleef came to South Kitsap in October 1968 working as a civilian cytologist in the Pathology Laboratory at the U.S. Naval Hospital in Puget Sound Naval Shipyard.

Marsha arrived from Spokane April 19, 1969 to join Glen. With her were their two children, Jim and Mary.

Since then the family has been increased by Grandmother Mary Van Cleef, one dog, three cats, two fish and a rabbit.

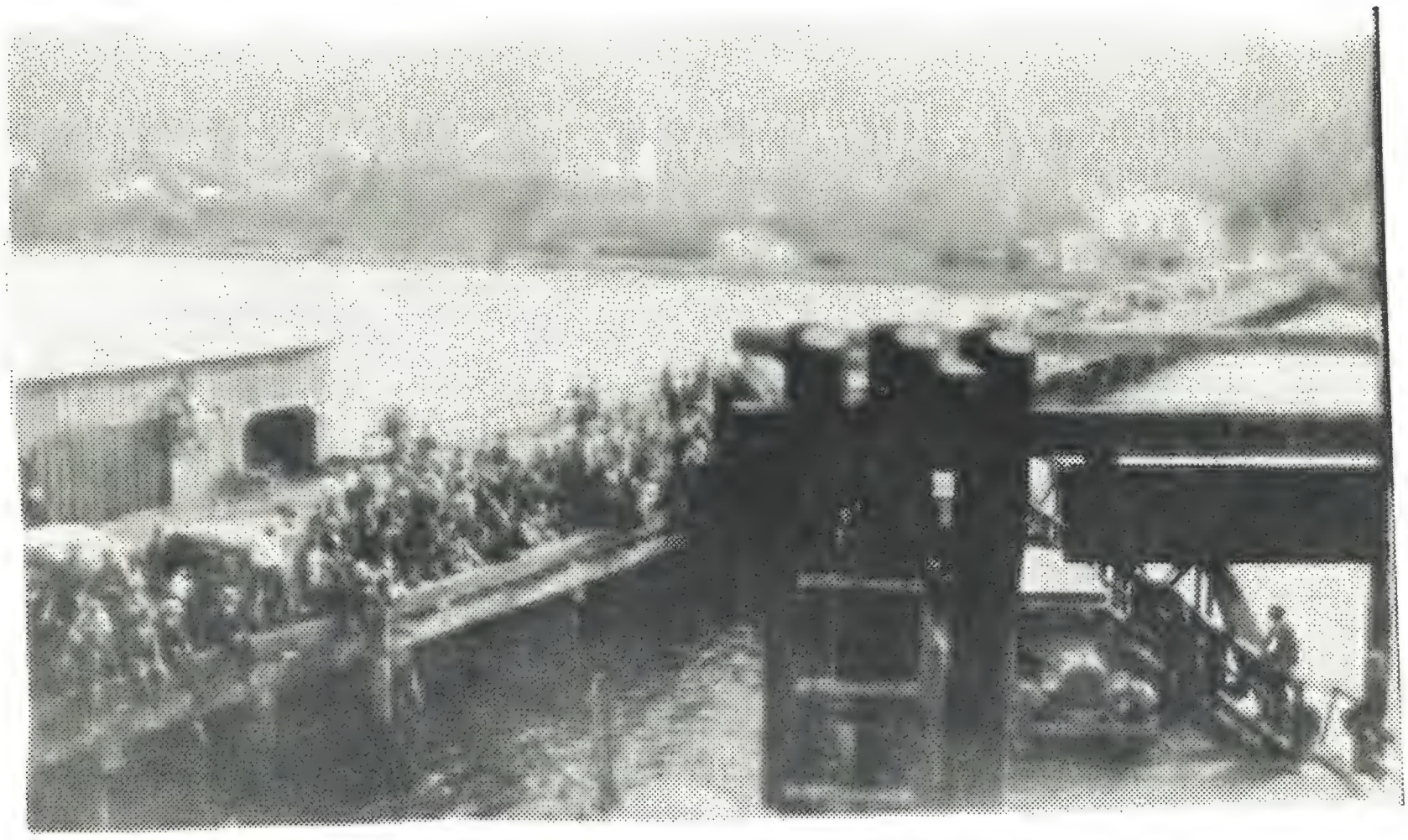
Family hobbies are snow skiing, sports (especially football and baseball), and fishing and camping.

## THE HARRY VANNORSDEL FAMILY

Harry Vannorsdel came to Seattle in 1944 from Kingley, Iowa, where he had been a successful farmer.

He met Miss J. Frances Denniston there and they were married in 1949.

Frances is a granddaughter of Samuel A. Denniston, and has lived in Manchester off and on all of her life. She was a teacher in South Kitsap schools, when she married.



**Manchester Dock, with Denniston Houses and Store in background**

After living in Seattle for five years, Mr. Vannorsdel built the two-story duplex across from the postoffice on a lot inherited from his wife's grandfather. The Vannorsdels lived in the upper apartments until 1966 when arthritis made climbing stairs a burden. So the duplex was sold and Harry and Frances moved into a mobile home close to the old Denniston home.

They enjoy Manchester's beautiful view in the summers and travel to Phoenix, Arizona for a warm, dry winter. Both agree there is not a lovelier spot than Manchester.

They are both members of Manchester Community Church and are active in the work there.

## THE JAMES VINSON FAMILY

James Lester Vinson, Viola "Arlene" Vinson, and their children James Milford, Armenda Kay, Viola Jean and John Wade Vinson moved into their beach cabin May 9, 1962. It was formerly owned by I.C. Lorance. The cabin next door was then owned by Francis Glandon, Both cabins were built in the early 40's by Mr. Clarence Jones.

Jim was just starting out in real estate in 1962 and is still with the firm of Roland and Roland of Gig Harbor.

Viola has been employed the past two years by the Western Oyster Company of Purdy.

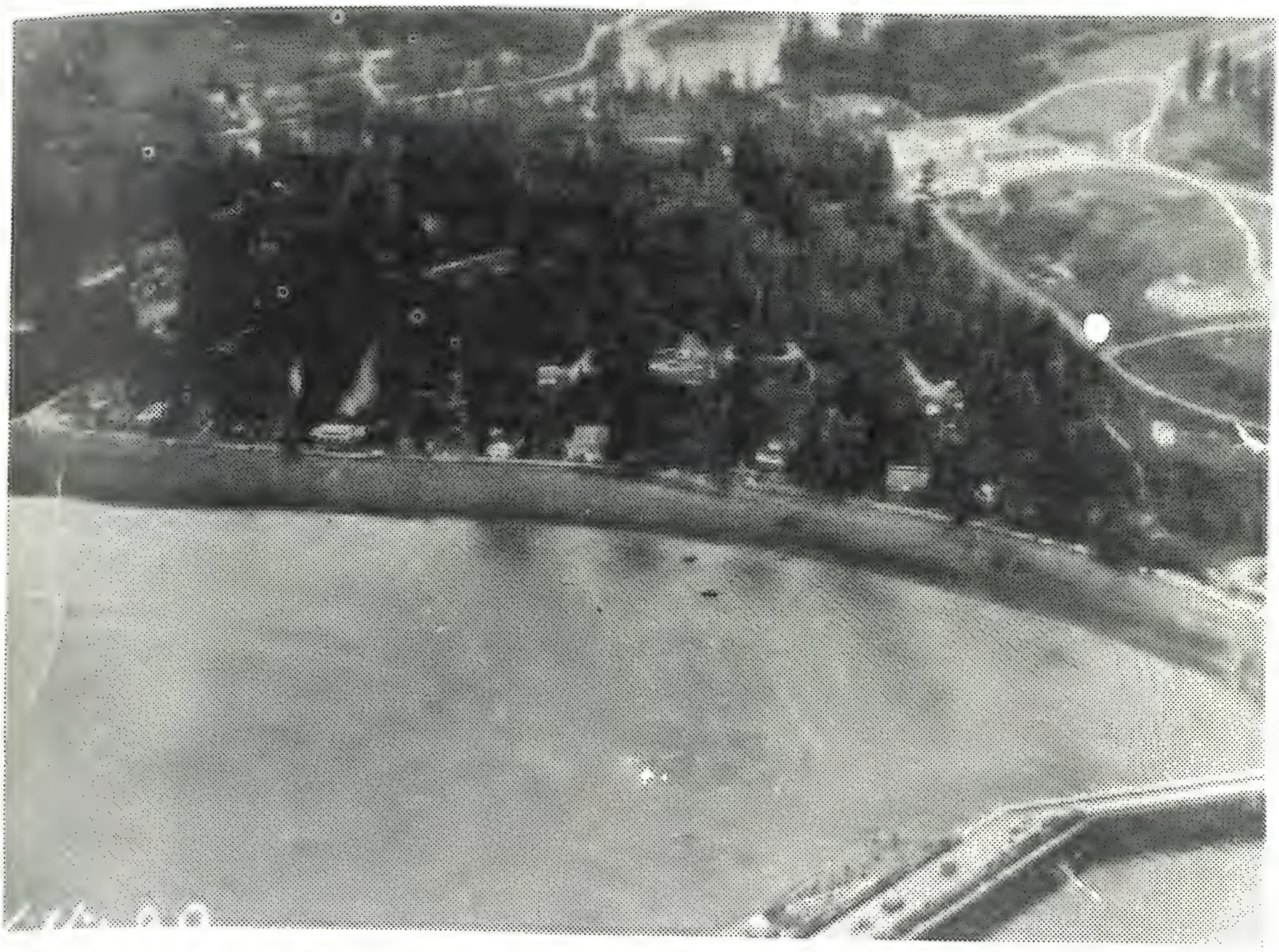
May 15, 1965, tragedy struck the Vinson Family, when they were involved in a pickup truck accident on Chester Road while coming home from a Little League Ball game which had been called off because of rain. The pickup went out of control, rolled over, and Viola Jean Vinson was killed instantly. No one else was seriously injured.

The kind and thoughtful people of Manchester showed their kindness and sympathy by sending cards, money, and helping with household chores. The Vinson Family knows how much it helps when people show that they care.

The Vinsons have enjoyed the beach area and have watched many changes in Manchester since they moved to their home on the beach.

They have remodeled their cabin to make a permanent home and are still remodeling and changing the scenery.

The Manchester Dock has changed considerably and the former marina building was burned.



**Manchester Beach and The Fuel Depot**

The Ballard Realty moved from the small office near the cafe to their present nicely remodeled office.

The Vinson boys have both been active as paper boys for many years for both the Seattle Times and The Bremerton Sun.

The Vinson girls and Mrs. Vinson learned to knit in Nancy Garvey's Yarn Shop when it first started in 1964.

There have been many illnesses and troubles through the years of living in Manchester, yet the Vinsons have found it a very peaceful and friendly place in which to grow and live.

Jim, Armenda and John are teen-agers now and are still living in the family home and are of great help and comfort to their proud parents, Jim and Viola Vinson.

## THE LESTER WEAVER STORY

Lester went to work at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard in Electronics in June 1951. Wilma joined him in July with young Barbara and David.

Michael didn't join the family until October 8, 1958 after the family had moved to Manchester. Lester served as volunteer fireman eighteen years (1951-1969) and was Chief for one year.

Barbara married Ralph Petersen August 14, 1965. They have two children, Steven and Terry. They live at Rich Cove on Rich Passage.

David has worked at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard Cafeteria for two years. He is married to the former Joette Varick and they have a daughter, Renee. They live just six houses away from Les and Wilma.

Mike still lives in the family home on Alaska Street.

## THE NORMAN WHITCOMB FAMILY

Norman and Marie Whitcomb, with their two-year old son, Errol (Sonny), came to Manchester in April 1942. Two daughters, Leslie and Mary were born after the family arrived in Manchester.

Norm was employed by the Manchester Fuel Depot until 1957, when he was forced to retire due to a bad heart.

Marie is employed at the Washington State Veterans' Home at Retsil.

Sonny married Pauline Arthur of Port Orchard on February 12, 1962. They have three children, Gary, Danny and Sheri. Sonny owns and operates the Mobil Service Station at Long Lake Junction on the Manchester Highway and they live in Manchester.

Leslie married Robert Jones of Port Orchard on June 23, 1964. They have two daughters, Robin and Kathi. Bob is a Spa. Engineer at the Washington State Veterans' Home at Retsil. They live on Mountain View Drive in Waterman. They operated the Manchester Variety Store from October 1964 until January 1966 when they sold to Bob's sister, Edith Hillstrom.

Mary married Michael Pitts from Streator, Illinois while he was serving in the U.S. Navy. They were married on September 22, 1967 and have a son, Ronnie.

Sonny and Pauline and their children are active members of the Manchester Community Church.

All the other members of the family attend the Bethel Grace Church on the Tacoma Highway. The Church and its activities play a big role in the lives of all the Whitcombs.

## THE GEORGE WHITTLE FAMILY

George and Lille Whittle with their two children, George "Clifford" and Jean spent their first summer in Manchester in 1919. They only missed two summers after that and became permanent residents about 1934.

For several summers they were joined by another family..David Hobson, wife Gertrude and daughter Aileen. David and Gertrude both passed away but Aileen married Keppel Hoyt and has two grown sons...all living in Everett.

George Whittle and David Hobson both worked in Seattle and came over on Saturdays on the old "Reliance" passenger boat...returning to Seattle on Monday mornings.

They first rented a small shack on the lot immediately north of the end of the dock...this was used as a kitchen. They had two large tents behind this shack for sleeping quarters. The beach south of the dock was off limits for the children because of the wild animals.

Later they rented the lot the home is now on and two large tents. Bert Rogers used to keep horses and cows in the field behind and they would rope off the tent area so the animals wouldn't poke their heads through the raised tent flaps and wake them up.

One night Lille and Gertrude had a bonfire to watch for the appearance of the new star "Venus". They had a basket of English tea cakes and tea. A cougar roaming the beach stopped to sniff the basket. Gertrude got behind Lille and yelled "scat"...whereupon the cougar took off and bounded between the two tents and on into the woods.

The field behind them was a baseball diamond and every Sunday all the fathers and sons would play ball. Everyone would turn out to watch and occasionally they would let the daughters play too. On Fourth of Julys there were all kinds of races and events. One July 4th, George Whittle decided to give Manchester a treat and purchased many kinds of fireworks. He had a raft anchored out in front of their place and when all the Manchesterites had gathered at the big bonfire, he and George Pollard rowed out to the raft in a little flat-bottomed boat with this box of fireworks. They left the box in the boat. The first thing they set off was a pinwheel...this sent sparks into the box of fireworks. and immediately everything started going off in all direc-

tions..rockets, fountains, etc. They finally managed to put the box on the raft, jump into the boat and row ashore.

The old hotel which was located on the beach at the foot of Hemlock Street was the place to go for Sunday chicken dinner with biscuits and honey. They went every Sunday.

Gig Olund, Lille Whittle and Ted Wood

Jean Whittle, G. Cliff Whittle, Dolly Schulz and Ted Wood

George Whittle was an original member of the Manchester Improvement Club. He had his own accounting firm in Seattle. Later his son joined him and the firm became "Whittle and Whittle". He passed away in 1969 at the age of 87.

Lille Whittle belonged to the Ladies Club and acted in many of the plays that were given to raise money. She was also a member of the committee for the Girl Scout Troop. She lives in Seattle and is still growing strong at 91 years of age.

L. Jean Whittle organized the first Girl Scout Troop in 1935...there were about twenty girls in the troop. Marjorie Lathrop Endsley was the assistant leader. In 1938 she organized a Brownie Troop.

The Girl Scouts met at the Community Hall on Monday evenings. Together with active committeewomen Mrs. Frank Jones, Mrs. Lille Whittle, Mrs. George Clements, Mrs. A. Nitteberg and Mrs. Frank Hersey they planned future events. The Girl Scouts were willing earnest young workers and no task seemed to large for them to undertake. The fact that the membership almost doubled within ten months time spoke well for the ability of Miss Jean Whittle.

Jean Whittle and Jean Olson were Air Raid Wardens and Observers in the Aircraft Warning Service during World War II. Jean Whittle also became a member of the Manchester Port Commission in 1949.

Geo. Clifford Whittle is a partner in the international certified public accounting firm of "Laventhol, Krekstein, Horwatch & Horwath" in Seattle. He and Edna have four children and two grandchildren.

**Eva Griffith, Jean Whittle and Marion Kurth—Two Girl Scouts with their leader.**

Jean Whittle married Victor Keifer in 1951. She worked for Peoples National Bank of Washington in Seattle from 1936 to 1958 and retired as head of the Commercial Loan Department.

**Victor and Jean Keifer**